Drouth Disaster Tag Shapes For Alabama

Will Go On Full-Aid List For Benson To OK And Send To White House

BY JAMES DANIEL
Post-Herald Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13—Alabama is about to be designated a drouth disaster state thus qualifying livestock growers for cut-price feed and possibly cut-price hay, The Birmingham Post-Herald learned today.

There also were indications that row-crop planters, now eligible for aid under the drouth disaster program, may get some relief from stringent controls on "diverted acres" if the state is included on the drouth disaster list.

Nothing is final until formally announced through the White House, but late this afternoon Agriculture Department officials were working on a plan to include Alabama on a list of new states to be added to the present list of nine drouth disaster states.

Would Be Extra

This is over and above the assistance given to Alabama farmers several weeks ago when Alabama was included on a long list of states eligible for special credit.

The first hurdle for the new designation comes tomorrow when Agriculture Secretary Ezra Benson returns from a Western speaking tour. Aides will show him a list of states they think should be added into the disaster roster. As of now Alabama is on that list.

If Secretary Benson is agreeable, the list then will go to the White House.

Next step would be for President Eisenhower to announce from Denver that an on-the-spot survey of Alabama had shown the state's livestock growers are damaged severely by the drouth.

Secretary Benson then would follow this up by designating specific Alabama disaster counties

The Post-Herald learned that the present thinking of is that all of Alabama is suffering except for a few extreme South Alabama counties and several others in the eastern edges of the state.

Once a county gets on the list, that county's livestock growers may apply for a 60-cent-per-hundredweight discount on feeds sold through regular commercial channels. In addition they probably would be eligible for hay imported from outside Alabama.

On such hay the government would pay 50 per cent of the transportation charges up to a ceiling of $10 per ton.

Nine states now are in the major disaster list. The list started with the new dust bowl area and has been expanded until it now includes counties in Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Wyoming.

Benson Recommends Alabama Drouth Aid

FROM PRESS REPORTS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson has recommended that President Eisenhower designate Alabama and four other Southern states drouth disaster areas eligible for emergency government help.

At the same time, Benson said the subsidy received by farmers in drouth areas on government owned livestock feed will be increased from 60 cents to $1 per 100 pounds.

Other states listed by Benson in addition to Alabama were Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee and South Carolina.

The action on Alabama came after a re-survey of drouth damage in the state about 10 days ago, and after Alabama Farm Bureau President Walter Randolph, the Alabama Cattlemen's Assn. and others had appealed to Washington for reconsideration of Alabama as a drouth disaster area.

Cotton Off 33 Per Cent

At Montgomery, the Cooperative Corp Reporting Service said Alabama's cotton crop will be about 33 per cent less than last year and its corn crop cut by about 41 per cent.

In Washington, Benson also told a news conference that he has eliminated the so-called "total acreage allotment" plan under which tight production curbs would have been imposed next year on every crop grown by farmers with 10 or more acres left idle by production cutbacks on basic farm corps.

That means farmers now may plant any crop they choose on land left idle by government ordered production controls on such crops as wheat, corn, cotton, rice tobacco and peanuts.

The aim of the discarded plan was to prevent farmers from devoting such land to crops which might mean new surpluses, depressing prices and forcing the Agriculture Department to step up its purchases of farm surpluses.

Never Liked Plan

Benson told his packed news conference, his first in five weeks, that he "never liked" total acreage allotments. He said they are "uneconomical, unfair and ineffective." The government, he added, will save $16,000,000 in administrative costs by dropping the plan.

Both Benson and James A. McConnell, the department's commodity stabilization chief, said they expect most of the land freed from controls by today's action to be planted to feed and forage crops. McConnell voiced hope that soy bean output also will be expanded.

Benson also told reporters that:

The 1955 wheat crop will be supported in commercial wheat areas at not less than $2.06 a bushel—82.5 per cent of the current "parity" price and the minimum price allowed under the new flexible farm law. Wheat now is being supported at $2.24 a bushel.

'Set-Aside' Hike Likely

The initial "set-aside" of surplus crops will start with 400,000,000 bushels of wheat and 1,000,000 bales of cotton. The wheat set aside "may be increased," he said, and the cotton set aside will be increased to "at least" 3,000,000 bales.

Under a new provision in the new farm law, commodities thus set aside will not be counted in setting support levels, which are based on supply.

The 3,000,000 cotton bales to be set aside would be enough to keep next year's cotton price support close to present levels. The wheat set-aside, however, would put price supports on next year's crops at the minimum 82.5 per cent of parity announced today.

Parity is a formula designed to give a farmer a "fair" return on his crop in relation to what he buys.

Benson also said that in the newly-designated 12-state non-commercial wheat area, next year's crop will be supported at 75 per cent of the rate in the commercial area.

The wheat support will be increased from the price announced today if the parity price next July 1 is higher than current wheat parity.

Dixie Cotton Crop Estimate Is Slashed 848,000 Bales

Drouth Brings Cutback in Harvest Forecast

By STANLEY DODDS

Fears that the South's cotton crop has suffered a severe blow due to intense heat and drouth since Aug. 1 were confirmed Wednesday.

The department of agriculture crop reporting board's September estimate of production was slashed 848,000 bales from the August figure.

Drouth Hits Crop

In placing total indicated production as of Sept 1 at 11,832,000 bales, the board said "abnormally hot, dry weather in all areas of the cotton belt, except the Far West," cut prospects nearly 7 per cent during August.

Average indicated yield per acre was scaled down from 313.5 pounds on Aug. 1 to 295 pounds on Sept. 1.

Reduction in crop prospects was sharpest in the central part of the cotton belt. Largest individual state reductions were in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas. The four states accounted for a drop of 715,000 bales.

The cotton trade here and elsewhere in the South, keeping a close watch on day-to-day crop developments, had been expecting a cut in the government estimate, but the Wednesday forecast was some 132,000 bales smaller than an average of private estimates.

Market values have been on the advance for some time on the strength of the trade's evaluation of the drouth situation. They rose to new season highs Wednesday on the big New Orleans and New York Coton Exchanges.

The smaller estimate set off active trade buying and short covering which ran prices of future contracts up as much as $2.75 a bale here before the demand was satisfied and there was a recession from best levels.

POPULATION ON FARM REFLECTS NEW DROP

Census Bureau Study Shows Continued Trend

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—(INS)—A nationwide farm census revealed Sunday that America's total farm population has decreased by more than three million persons since 1950.

The latest Census Bureau survey shows that the longtime downward trend in farm population is continuing, and that only 21,890,000 persons were living on farms in the United States last April.

In April, 1953, the number was 22,679,000, while in 1952 it was 24,283,000. The 1950 total was 25,058,000 persons.

In April of this year, the farm population comprised only 13½ per cent of the total national population, whereas four years ago it was better than 16½ per cent of the overall population.

The survey points out that substantial changes have occurred in the last four years among all age groups of both sexes. The most striking change noted was the farm-to-city migration of both men and women at high rates.

Farm population has been on the downward grade since about 1946, with a few exceptions. One exception was April, 1952, when there were about 120,000 more persons on farms than in the previous April.

Between 1940 and 1950, the number of persons living on farms declined by more than five million.

Benson Helps Drought-Hit Farmers

WASHINGTON —(UP)— Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson Wednesday eliminated the toughest part of next year's scheduled crop control program. He said he acted to aid farmers now hard pressed by widespread drought.

Benson wiped out the so-called "total acreage" phase of the program which would have put production controls on every crop grown by farmers who had 10 or more acres idled by production cutbacks on basic crops. Ordinarily only the basic crops are under acreage control.

The original purpose of the "total acreage" program was to prevent diverted acre planting from ballooning into new crop surpluses.

At a packed news conference, his first in five weeks, Benson also:

1–Announced that the 1955 wheat crop will be supported in the commercial wheat areas at not less than $2.06 a bushel. The price is 82.5 per cent of the current wheat parity price. This year's prop is $2.24 a bushel.

2–Recommended that President Eisenhower designate Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee and South Carolina as drought disaster areas eligible for emergency federal aid.

3–Stepped up from 60 cents to $1.00 per 100 pounds the subsidy farmers in drought areas will get on purchase of government-owned livestock feed.

4–Announced initial "set-aside" of 400,000,000 bushels of wheat and 1,000,000 bales of cotton as provided under new farm law. The wheat set-aside "may be increased," he said, and the cotton set-aside will be increased to "at least" 3,000,000 bales.

Commodities set aside are not counted when price support levels are determined. Under the flexible support law, support levels are based on supply.

Although 3,000,000 bales of cotton would be the minimum allowed in the set-aside, it would be enough to keep next year's cotton price supports close to their present level. The wheat set-aside also is the minimum allowed.

N. C. Farm Income Plunges

Nineteen fifty three—first year after the Republicans took charge in Washington—brought a drop in farm income that cost Tar Heel farmers $31,000,000.

The Crop Reporting Service released figures yesterday showing that North Carolina farmers received $903,950,000 from the sale of all crops, livestock and livestock products in 1953. This was 31 million dollars or 3.3 per cent less than in 1952 and 50 million dollars or 5.3 per cent under 1951 cash income.

Even so, farmers elsewhere suffered a bit more. The Service said that despite its drop North Carolina advanced from 13th to 12th in 1953 among the states in the total cash receipts from all commodities.

It was fourth each year in cash receipts from field crops and 22nd each year in dollar volume from the sale of livestock and livestock products.

Crop sales accounted for $683,885,000 or 75.7 per cent of the total cash receipts in 1953 and, as usual, tobacco was the big money crop. Tobacco was responsible for $456,952,000 or 50.6 per cent of all cash receipts, including those from livestock.

Sales of cotton and cottonseed brought in $92,947,000 last year making cotton the second most important money crop for Tar Heel farmers. Peanuts, which ranked third, produced $34,463,000.

Cash receipts from other major crops were: Truck crops, $11,989,000; corn, $11,347,000; wheat, $10,059,000; and soybeans, $8,714,000.

Income from the crops was well below the income for 1952, but livestock and livestock products showed a gain of $17,158,000, which served in part to alleviate the blow to North Carolina's farm economy. All told, livestock and livestock product sales amounted to $220,065,000 last year.

The 8.5 per cent gain over 1952 continued a trend. During recent years, the Service noted, "the proportion of all cash farm receipts accounted for by sales of livestock and livestock products has steadily increased."

For 1953, livestock income amounted to 24.3 per cent of the farmers' total cash receipts. In 1952, livestock income accounted for 21.7 per cent of the total. The year before that, it was 20.3 per cent.

Dairy products produced the biggest share of the livestock receipts, followed by hogs, eggs and chickens in that order.

70 Georgia Counties Approved for Relief In Drought Disaster

70 COUNTIES IN GEORGIA GET DROUGHT AID
Shaded Area Indicates Disaster Sections

Rains Break Dry Spell in Coast Areas

By GLADSTONE WILLIAMS
Constitution Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Acting swiftly after President Eisenhower at Denver declared Georgia a drought disaster area, the United States Department of Agriculture late today named 70 counties of the state as eligible for disaster relief.

The President earlier in the day had certified Georgia and four other southern states as disaster areas, resulting from severe drought conditions in recent months. The other states are Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee. In activating the presidential order the Agriculture department named a total of 222 counties in the five states as eligible for disaster aid.

OTHER COUNTIES

Other south Georgia counties, from the southern limits of Tift to the Florida line, also reporting severe drought conditions but were still without aid.

The department on Sept. 3 certified 108 Georgia counties as eligible for emergency production loans, entitling farmers to obtain government funds at low interest rates for current and next year's operations.

The federal aid came as a deluge of rain broke a long dry spell in Georgia's coastal areas.

Savannah recorded more than five inches of rain in 24 hours Thursday, and Brunswick logged more than three inches.

Macon measured one and a half inches, and lighter rain was reported in Augusta, Columbus, Athens and Alma.

HAY DISTRIBUTION

Because of the disaster relief designation, farmers of the 70 Georgia counties certified today will be eligible for participation in the government hay distribution program and to receive emergency feed for livestock. The department also will provide 50 per cent of the cost of preparing land for seeding for new cover crops. As a part of the relief program, the government will pay up to $1 per hundred pounds of the cost of grain distributed to farmers in the certified drought counties.

Georgia had a greater number of counties certified for relief today than any of the other states affected by the President's order. Alabama had 38 counties on the list, Mississippi 50, South Carolina 46 and Tennessee 18.

Officials explained that under the government program the individual states are normally required to put up half the cost of the relief program administered in disaster areas. But in view of the fact that the Georgia Legislature is not now in session the program will be carried through in the state for the time being without this requirement, it was said.

Following is a list of the 70 Georgia counties named today by the department:

Baldwin, Ben Hill, Bibb, Bleckley, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Butts, Candler, Chatham, Chattooga, Clayton, Columbia, Crawford, Crisp, Dade, Dodge, Dooly, Effingham, Elbert, Emanuel, Evans, Fayette, Floyd, Glascock, Greene, Hancock, Henry, Houston, Irwin, Jasper, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Lamar, Laurens, Lincoln, McDuffie, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Newton, Oglethorpe, Peach, Pike, Pulaski, Putnam, Richmond, Rockdale, Screven, Spaulding, Talbot, Taliaferro, Taylor, Tattnall, Telfair, Tift, Toombs, Truetlan, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Walker, Warren, Washington, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkes and Wilkinson.

Governor Talmadge first urged the President to declare Georgia a disaster relief area early in the summer. The department after receiving a preliminary report on conditions in the state sent some of its top drought officials for a personal survey when members of the Georgia delegation in Congress made bitter protests over the delay in reaching a final decision.

MORE COTTON PICKERS NEEDED IN MISSOURI

P. 14

Heat Matures Cotton Quickly In Southeast Area

Special to The Commercial Appeal

SIKESTON, Mo., Sept. 16.—Southeast Missouri cotton growers have called for an additional 6,000 pickers because of the hot, dry weather which is stimulating rapid maturing of the No. 1 cash crop in the state.

Leon Garnett, manager of the State Division of Employment Security in Sikeston, reports cotton 50 per cent open and 2,000 workers needed in the Scott County area immediately. About 12,500 bales, or eight per cent of the crop, had been picked by Aug. 29, according to farm observers.

The Kennett office of the agency says 10 per cent of the crop is harvested and 3,000 workers are needed immediately. At Caruthersville, cotton was reported from 25 to 60 per cent open and 1,000 pickers are being asked for.

Wages for pickers range from $2.50 to $3.50 per hundred pounds.

SERIOUS QUESTIONS FACE COTTON GROWERS IN DECEMBER 14 REFERENDUM

Union Springs, Ala. Herald

The outcome of the cotton marketing quota referendum to be held throughout the Nation's cotton-growing area on December 14 will determine the level of price support for cotton produced in 1955 and therefore is of vital concern to every cotton grower, says J. W. Harrison, Chairman of the Bullock County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

Nov. 12-9-54

The marketing quota program will be in operation for next year's crop, the chairman explains, if at least two-thirds of the votes cast in the referendum are in favor of the program. In that case, price support will be available for the 1955 crop of upland cotton at a level between 82 one-half and 90 percent of parity. If more than one-third of the votes are against quotas, the price support level to eligible growers would drop to 50 percent of parity.

The choice before cotton growers, according to Chairman Harrisson, essentially is whether or not they want a reduced acreage and price support between 82 and one-half and 90 percent of parity. He explains that acreage allotments will be in effect even though quotas are disapproved; compliance with such cotton allotments and with any other crop allotments established for the farm will be required for eligibility for price support, no matter what the level of support.

Chairman Harrison urges all growers to vote in the referendum. In his opinion, the decision will have far-reaching effects, and the question deserves the serious study and the carefully considered vote of all who grow cotton.

The referendum will be held between the hours of 8:30 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on December 14 at the following polling places:

Beats 1 and 2: Three Notch and Midway.

Beats 3, 4, and 12: Union Springs and Aberfoil.

Beats 5 and 6: Pine Grove, Smuteye, Perote and Corinth.

Beats 7 and 10: Inverness and Almeria.

Beats 8, 9, and 11: Thompson, Fitzpatrick, Knowles Store and Simsville.

Cotton Farmers Should Vote Dec. 14

Cotton farmers should make sure that they take time to vote Dec. 14 on the quota referedum to determine the level of price support for cotton which will be produced next year.

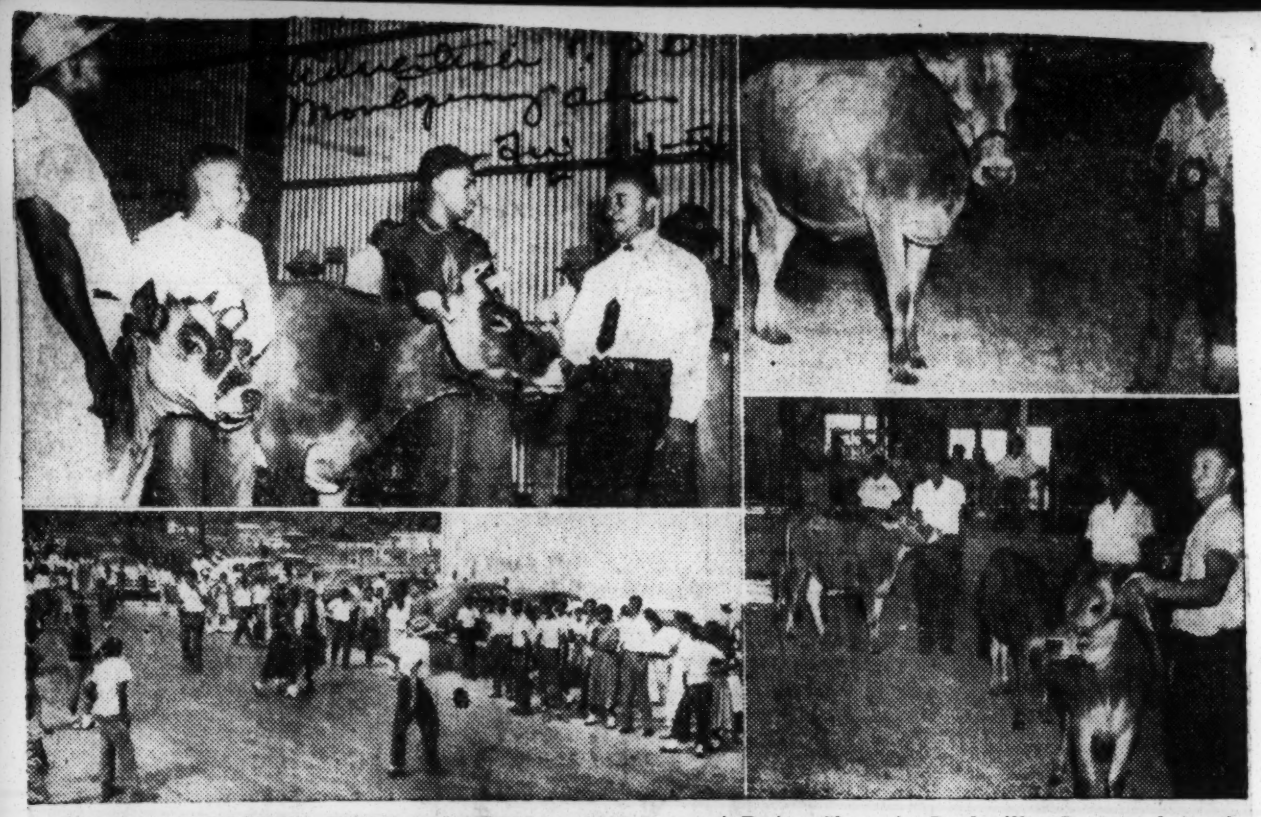
Herald P. 2

The question which will have to be answered is simply this: Do you want a reduced acreage and price supports between 82 and one-half and 90 percent of parity, or do you want no acreage allotment with a 50 percent parity. Chairman Harrison explains that in any event acreage allotments will still be in effect next year.

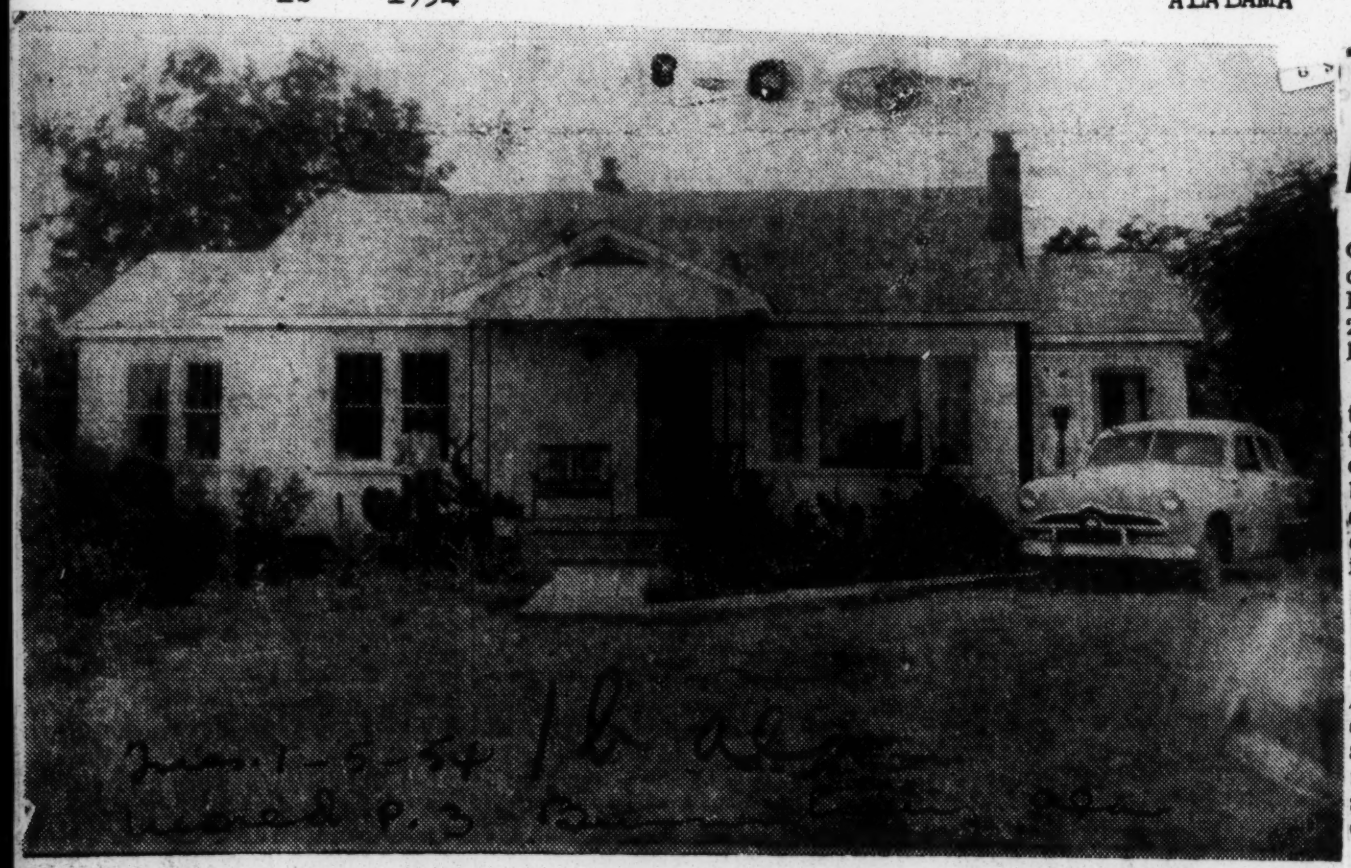
Union Springs, Ala. Nov. 12-9-54

With Bullock County farmers hit as hard by the drouth as they were this year, their cotton crops were the important money crop. With beef and peanut prices declining, it would be a sad state of affairs if cotton farmers should suddenly find that their cotton crops were going to be supported by only 50 percent. Such a situation could result in cotton selling for 18c next year. There isn't too much wrong with 18c cotton, providing other living costs are in line, but we can not see other things the farmer buys coming down at such a rapid rate.

If you are a farmer we urge you to vote on Tuesday, Dec. 14, for the 90 percent parity.



SCENES AT EIGHTH WEST ALABAMA AND PIEDMONT DAIRY SHOWS—Top left, Finley Lewis, NFA member, Perry County Training School, is greeted by his vocational agriculture teacher, R. V. Bolen, after his Jersey cow won the grand championship of the West Alabama Dairy Show held at Uniontown. Looking on, at left, are C. S. Foreman, Marengo County agent, and Franklin Juniors of Faunsdale, Marengo 4-H'er, with his junior champion heifer. Top right, little Carol Frazier, Talladega 4-H'er, shows her junior champion Jersey at the Piedmont Dairy Show in Dadeville. Bottom left, the annual parade of school groups comes to an end at the Uniontown Livestock Coliseum, where several hundred persons observed the eighth annual dairy event. Bottom right, Joseph Marable of Roanoke, Randolph County 4-H member, with his showmanship winning entry poses in the final round of the contest at Dadeville. Runners-up in showmanship were Bobby Jacobs, Talladega County, Irby Sands, Tallapoosa, both 4-H'ers, and James Lacey, Elmore NFA member



FARMER'S HOME IN HENRY COUNTY, ALABAMA—Above is the beautiful $10,000 home of J. B. Newman of Clopton, Ala. The home is fully equipped with the latest facilities and furnishings. Mr. Newman was one of the founders of the Henry County Branch of the NAACP and was a litigant and leader in the fight which restored the ballot to the Negro group in Henry County. There are over 306 Negro voters in this county. A Negro recently was called for jury service in Circuit Court here. Mr. Newman indicates that since the restoration of Negro voting race relations have improved and civic interest broaden in Henry County. Mr. Newman is seen standing beside his automobile in the picture and his brother in the flower garden. He raises prize-fighter roosters. He has been cited as the "Citizen of the Year" by the Alabama State Conference of NAACP Branches.

600 Farmers At Three-Day Ala. Confab

NORMAL, Ala.—More than six hundred farmers learned advanced methods in various aspects of farming and homemaking during a three-day short course and farmer's conference at the Alabama A. and M. College which ended Feb. 12.

THE CLOSING address was delivered by Dr. C. R. Ellison, dean of the Division of Agriculture of the Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Ga., who called on farmers to develop a long-time plan to make their farms attractive, productive and to transmit them to their children intact from generation to generation. "You can't expect to enjoy high income," he told farmers, "if you work only six months out of the year."

R. D. Morrison, director of the division of agriculture at A. and M., awarded certificates to three farmers who had produced more than one hundred bushels of corn per acre. Recipients were C. A. Jarmon (123 bushels), Jesse J. Rhodes (103 bushels), and Rolley Whiteside (106 bushels).

Charles Harris, retired A. and M. farm manager, was presented a plaque for twenty-four years of meritorious service, and Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Fitcheard received a plaque for efficient management of their 600-acre farm.

Visitors present from Tuskegee Institute and agricultural services included F. T. McQueen, resident teacher-trainer; L. A. Potts, dean, school of agriculture; Dr. G. T. Doody, professor of agricultural economics; Dr. B. D. Mayberry, head, department of horticulture; Dr. B. C. Webb, head, department of agronomy, and W. B. Hill, Negro state leader, Extension Service.

* * *

COUNTY AGENTS, vocational agricultural teacher-trainers, and home agents from North Alabama Counties were also present.

The N. D. Fitcheards Merit Farm Family

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.—(A N P)—One of Alabama's leading farm couples, Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Fitcheard, began their role as farmers 28 years ago on a 200-acre tract of land which they rented.

Working hard and managing well they added more land from time to time. Today, they own 686 acres located in the rich Limestone Valley, Madison County. Within this vast acreage are more than 500 acres classified as good cropland—some of it excellent.

Total gross receipts from farming in 1953 were as follows:

GRAND TOTAL

Cotton and cottonseed, $19,919.22; All other crops, $916.00; Dairy products, $3,665,00; Livestock and livestock products, $700.00; Poultry and miscellaneous products, -1,999.78 and $500.00, making a grand total of $26,900.00.

Gradually converting from a major row cropping system, the family completed a modern dairy barn early last year which marked the beginning of grade "A" milk production.

Previous to this conversion, the Fitcheards planted as high as 300 acres of cotton. Gradually developing a dairy enterprise, this Tennessee Valley farm family began by producing grade "B" milk from a few fair to good grade cows.

BETTER BREEDING

Presently, they are milking 20 to 38 cows. Ten young heifers will be added to the herd as they come into production. Improvement is being made by culling low producers and following better breeding and feeding practices.

The farm is completely mechanized, having four tractors, a combine, pick-up hay baler and an up-to-date feed mill. The family has a comfortable home with modern conveniences including television.

Mr. Fitcheard is a qualified voter and a civic leader in Madison County. He is vice-president of the Madison County Farm Bureau Auxiliary, stockholder in the Longview Gin company Huntsville also past member of the Church Street Community Center Board of Directors. He is an active leader and booster of 4-H Club work and Extension Service program.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitcheard received personal congratulations from Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., for their achievements.

Negro Farmers Touring State

Special to The Post-Herald

AUBURN, March 25 — Negro farmers and leaders in all parts of Alabama are learning about new developments and the results of research in agriculture at a series of meetings now under way.

The meetings are being held at six of API's agricultural experiment substations.

A meeting for Negro farmers of Wilcox, Marengo and Choctaw Counties was held at the Lower Coastal Plain substation at Camden Tuesday. Farmers from Monroe, Butler and Conecuh Counties met at the same site Wednesday.

Today farmers of Perry, Macon, Sumter, Wilcox and Montgomery Counties met at the Black Belt substation at Marion Junction. The Marion Junction substation will be host to farmers from Marengo, Hale, Lowndes, Bullock, Dallas and Greene Counties tomorrow.

Other meetings slated next week include:

Chambers, Coosa, Elmore, Lee, Randolph, and Tallapossa Counties, March 30 at the Piedmont substation, Camp Hill.

North Greene, Jefferson, and Tuscaloosa Counties, April 7 at the Upper Coastal Plain substation, Winfield.

Limestone, Madison, Colbert, Lauderdale, Lawrence, and Morgan Counties, April 8 at Tennessee Valley substation.

Grey land areas of Madison, Limestone, and Morgan Counties, April 9 at the Sand Mountain substation.

LOACHAPOKA CHAMPION CANNER — Mrs. Mattie Dowdell (right), of Route 1, was one of several persons discussing their progressive farm and home work at the recent 63rd Tuskegee Farmers Conference. Mrs. Dowdell told how she, with her family, has made an excellent record producing, storing and preparing foods. The Lee County homemaker cans over 700 quarts of foods annually for her family of seven. Besides that she stores many pounds of other foods each year. Shown with Mrs. Dowdell, the Loachapoka championship canner, is Mrs. Willie Callins Lockhart, Lee County home demonstration agent, who led the discussion with the homemaker.

Macon County Is Listed For Drouth Disaster Aid

Macon County has been added to the list of counties eligible for drouth disaster aid under the emergency hay and feed program, it was announced Wednesday at Washington by Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse. This county was one of 15 added to the 41 which already had been alloted drouth disaster aid.

County Agent M. F. Whatley said Thursday morning that this county's livestock farmers would be chief beneficiaries of the action since they were the chief sufferers from the extremely dry weather that has reduced hay and grain crops and severly damaged pastures.

Macon County was among the list first included by Gov. Gordon Persons in his request for emergency aid to Washington. This county's appeal, however, was denied in the original order by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Gov. Persons made another appeal for this and other counties, resulting in the action announced Wednesday.

County Agent Whatley said the emergency aid program will make possible subsidies of up to $20 a ton for grain and up to $10 a ton for hay to farmers whose hay and grain crops have been damaged or wiped out by drouth.

Farmers may file application for aid with the county agent's office, the FHA, or the ASC and the applications will be acted on by the farmers committee of the FHA.

A committee of farm leaders prepared a survey of drouth damage in the county prior to filing of the application for aid by Gov. Persons. At that time they found that crop damage extended to more than 50 per cent in some categories. Damage to the county's cotton crop, while extensive, was not as heavy as had been anticipated.

Cotton Crop Of 700,000 Bales Is Outlook In State

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—A 1954 cotton crop of 700,000 bales is forecast for Alabama based on conditions as of Oct. 1. This is 263,000 bales or 27 per cent less than last year's crop. The crop is indicated almost eight per cent higher than it was on Sept. 1. Yield per acre for the state, indicated at 277 pounds, is eight pounds less than last year's yield and nine pounds less than the 10-year average.

Picking and ginning made good progress during the month, being indicated at about 80 per cent complete for the state. This is considerably ahead of last year and at least 10 per cent further along than any year during the past 20 years. Most of the cotton was already picked out in the South on Oct. 1.

Annual Macon County Farm Festival

This exhibit of farm products caught the eyes of all persons attending the annual Macon County Farm Festival held at Tuskegee Institute The leaders who are shown above putting on the final touches are Mrs. Amelia Chambliss of Cowles Station and Grant Moss of Mt. Zion.

Each year Macon County homemakers show off some of their top dressmaking at the annual Farm Festival. Last year they went all out for cotton goods. Winners in the 1953 contest are, left to right, Mrs. Mazie Tolbert, Milstead; Mrs. Ethel Harrison, Clintonville; Mrs. Mattie Askew, Creek Stand; Mrs. Mary E. Felton, Brownville; Mrs. Rebecca Jeter, Milstead, and Mrs. Carrie Felton, Brownville.

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Three Counties Added To State Disaster List

Cherokee, Etowah, Marengo Included

Three additional Alabama counties have been added to the drouth disaster list and farmers in those countries made elegible for federal emergency aid in buying hay and feed for livestock.

Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson yesterday designated Cherokee, Etowah and Marengo as major drouth disaster areas. The three additional counties mean that now 41 of Alabama's 67 counties have been placed on the list for federal aid.

Benson also added Chickasaw, Coahoma, Lee and Prentiss Counties in Mississippi to the list of stricken areas.

Program Already Rolling

Meanwhile, agricultural leaders in Alabama already had the emergency relief program rolling, with applications being taken by the Farmers Home administration, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committees and county agents in all of the designated counties.

Madison County already has reported that the ASC committee has certified 22 farmers for the purchase of more than 400,000 pounds of feed.

Under the government program, farmers are paid a subsidy of $1 for each 100 pounds of specified grains bought for livestock feed. In another phase, the government pays half the cost of transporting hay into stricken areas up to $10 a ton.

Application blanks are available at the offices of the three agencies listed above. The FHA certifies farmers as being eligible for aid, the ASC then supervises purchase of grain and issues the purchase order to the individual farmers.

Freight Rates Cut

In another development, President Eisenhower announced that American railroads will cut freight rates on hay shipments to 15 drouth-stricken states by 50 per cent.

The President termed the action "another manifestation of how America rises to meet its crises."

The White House made public a telegram from William T. Faricy, president of the Association of American Railroads, to the President, in which Faricy said the reduction will go into effect as soon as posible, probably Oct. 1." Faricy said the reduced rates on hay shipments would remain in effect until Dec. 15.

President Eisenhower, in conjunction with Secretary Benson, had asked the railroads only Monday to make a temporary reduction on rates for hay shipments to the 15 states affected by this Summer's long drouth period.

The chief executive said he was gratified by the prompt response of the railroads.

Farmers Face Dark Outlook For Peanuts

Yield Is Slashed By Long Drouth

MONTGOMERY, Sept. 26 (AP)—Peanut harvests reduced by drouth as much as 15 per cent in some Wiregrass counties this year are expected to deal growers a triple blow economically.

Farm agents in the peanut growing counties say the crop not only is short but poor, but is being reflected in lower prices for hogs which depend largely on the peanut crop for feed.

Although the peanut is not the only main cash source of any county, it still contributes an important ration of the farmer's income. Farm Agent M. M. Woodham of Geneva, expressed it this way:

"Cotton is what the farmer lives on. Peanuts are used to pay debts—there won't be many debts paid this year."

At least one third of Crenshaw County's peanut crop never will be harvested at all, O. W. Reeder, farm agent, predicts.

Rare Cases

From Henry County comes a report by H. M. Warren of two or three farmers who have harvested a ton to the acre this year, doubling the national average for last year.

"These are rare cases, though," Warren says:

In Houston County, home of the annual peanut festival, Agent C. M. Ling reports an expected yield of 35-40 per cent of last year's average.

Many farmers in Coffee County are baling their peanut crop for hay, Ed Knowles, assistant farm agent states.

Claude Puckett, operator of a peanut shelling mill in Enterprise, predicts he will handle 50,000 tons this year, less than half of last year's milling load.

Another industrialist, whose business depends on the peanut crop, is Jess Wilkes with an Enterprise peanut processing plant. Wilkes quotes the Coffee County average last year as 944 pounds per acre.

The lowest estimate on this year's crop yield comes from R. E. Martin, Covington farm agent, who reports "one-fourth of an average yield at the outside."

Picture Brighter

In Dale County, where peanuts rank alongside cotton as a cash crop, J. P. Moore, assistant agent, believes the yields in the northern part of the county will be less than half of average while the southern part, which has experienced a great deal more rainfall, will probably harvest a normal crop.

A ight crop is expected in Pike County, where Agent H. J. Carter, says peanuts are the first cash crop. A total harvest of less than 40 per cent average is predicted there.

The peanut crop is the shortest in history in Henry County, J. W. Walton, farm agent, declares. Farmers in that area are expecting 300-400 pounds per acre, he added.

Alabama's Farm Census Starts Today

Answers To Be Of Importance

BY JAMES DANIEL
Post-Herald Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7—The sixteenth national farm census opens in Alabama tomorrow with a possibility that it will turn up some interesting information on recent shifts in Alabama farm output.

The census, taken every five years since 1840, is particularly important this year, officials say, because of the shift now going on in federal policies toward agriculture.

For example, the emphasis in new legislation is away from rigid price supports on a relatively small number of selected cash crops such as cotton and tobacco, and toward indirect aids to many neglected phases of agriculture.

Alabama agriculture in recent years has been moving away from the traditional cotton and tobacco economy, toward beef cattle and dairy operations. Federal officials are calling for a big step up in the nation's protein foods output.

The answers Alabama farmers give next week will be helpful in tailoring new federal policies to fit the requirements of Alabama agriculture.

In many cases, Alabama farmers have already received questionnaires. These were mailed about a week ago. They contain a hundred or so questions, usually answerable by a simple yes or no. Farmers who have had difficulty with the forms will be coached on filling them out by the census enumerators who start paying their personal calls on Monday.

Alabama is in the last of six groups of states being counted. The count is staggered to avoid interrupting farmers at harvest time. It is figured here that Alabama farmers have pretty much finished up their chores and are ready to take a rest.

The information given to the census takers is confidential but the answers will go into a pool of information for tabulation.

Questions deal with the size of farms, whether the operator owns or rents, the amount of land devoted to different uses, the crops harvested, the farmer's livestock, how much money he spends on labor and machine hire, fertilizers and lime, gasoline and other work materials.

Also, whether his house has piped running water, television, a food freezer; his automotive equipment; whether he uses irrigation, the conservation practices he may follow; the value of his farm, the size of his mortgage and other data of a financial sort.

Out of it all will come a composite picture of the average Alabama farmer.

Because so much of the information is needed immediately, the Census Bureau plans to work extra hard to be able to start publishing county by county results early next year. The data probably will fit in with the new administration polic of pitching its farm programs in terms of total farm family needs—helping farmers and their families work out home and farm betterment plans.

4-H SCENESFROM WILCOX COUNTY . . . SEAT OF NO NEGRO VOTERS—Shown (above) a scenes of the recent farmers' meeting held in Wilcox County, where Negro citizens have reportedly been denied the right to register and qualify to vote since 1901. Wilcox County FHA Supervisor B. Ivey is shown (at left) discussing financing farm enterprises with a group of Wilcox County farmers in Boiling Springs.

This Group (at right) of Boiling Springs homemakers are seen studying plans for a new year during their annual meeting, one of five held for leaders in Wilcox County. From left to right, they are: Mrs. Caroline Lawson, of Route 1, Gastonburg; Mrs. Roberta Burrell, Route 1, Camden; Mrs. Leada Shaw, Route 1, Gastonburg; Mrs. Ada Alexander, of Flatwood; Miss S. E. Reynolds, home agent; Mrs. M. L. Carey, Gastonburg; Mrs. Adlay Grey, Gastonburg; Mrs. Louise Shaw, Gastonburg; and Mrs. Adrilla Burrell, also of Gastonburg.

First Cotton Of Season Ginned At Local Plant

To Luzetta Battle, of near Loachapoka, goes the honor of ginning the first bale of cotton in Macon County for the 1954 season. She brought a load of cotton to the Lightfoot Brothers Gin here last Friday. It ginned out at 506 pounds.

She also brought the second bale of the season, returning to the gin the next day with another 500-plus pound bale.

Why Discriminate Against Alabama?

Alabama farmers, surveying their parched crops and pasture lands, are not made happy by President Eisenhower's word to Governor Gordon Persons that the drouth in this state is not sufficiently acute to justify the low cost grain and feed that is being made available to western states.

Secretary Benson's Agriculture Department this week did finally make farmers in this state eligible for credit from the department if it is not available elsewhere, but Alabamians are not to be granted the savings on grain and feed that are already going to other stricken states.

One wonders why?

Senator Lister Hill has blasted the administration for withholding this vital aid.

"There is absolutely no basis for the discrimination against farmers in Alabama," said Senator Hill. "If our farmers are eligible for emergency aid (loans) under one program, they are eligible for emergency aid (low cost hay and feed) under the other program.

"The only explanation that I can see is the unwillingness of this administration to provide financial assistance to our farmers as it is doing to western farmers."

We agree that this is a matter of serious injustice to Alabama.

Driving through Central Alabama this week we saw many signs of this worst douth suffering in history.

Even the finest and most carefully nurtured pastures—such as those of the Lamberts at Darlington — are v i r t u a l desert.

Here in Montgomery County some places have been favored by a little rain, but many prairie farms are desolated. Pastures are bare, the stubble is brown, and farmers are having to feed their meager store of hay.

Perhaps the administration just cannot imagine Alabama suffering drouth such as has happened before in the West, but it is here, and our farmers deserve the maximum in aid.

Alabama To Present New Plea On Drouth

MONTGOMERY, Aug. 26 (U.P.)—A new crop survey to determine drouth damage since July was scheduled to be completed and submitted to Gov. Gordon Persons today.

The governor promised to forward it to Washington "within five minutes" to support a new request for drouth disaster aid for Alabama.

The Alabama drouth committee last week ordered the survey after the federal government rejected the first request for aid.

Agriculture Department officials, while rejecting the request promised to keep an eye open to Alabama conditions and said if the situation grew more serious, the state might qualify for disaster recognition.

Need More Rain

Weathermen said today that rainfall so far this year only totaled 20 inches in Montgomery County, which may be considered a typical county. It was only 47 per cent of normal, Chief Meteorologist Arthur Long said.

One of the state's hardest-hit areas was in Southeast Alabama where the peanut crop alone has suppered an estimated $7,000,000 loss. It was estimated by local farm agents that the peanut crop in Houston County would be only 50 per cent of normal, Geneva 30 per cent, Dale 65 per cent, Coffee 40 per cent and Henry 45 per cent.

Geneva County has received only 12 per cent of a normal rainfall during the past three months. Coffee received 20 per cent of normal and other Sotuheastern counties were not much better.

Federal agriculture officials, in a weekly survey of crops all over the state, said "considerable acreages of peanuts" will not be harvested at all, unless rain comes soon.

The hot, dry weather has stopped the growth of cotton and squares and young bolls were shedding. The crop was opening prematurely in many areas and prospects for a good yield were disappointingly low.

Corn in many areas was near a complete failure and was severely damaged in all areas. Much of the crop is being hogged off in South Alabama and some of the stalks were cut for fodder in the north.

Pastures provided little or no grazing and hay crops yields were less than 50 per cent of normal. Cattle still lost weight on the dry pastures and marketing of thin, unfinished animals continued heavy in all parts of Alabama.

Drouth Cuts State's Cotton 32 Per Cent

Crop Is Estimated At 650,000 Bales

MONTGOMERY, Sept. 10 (U.P.)—Alabama's cotton crop has been cut about 32 per cent this year, according to a prediction by the Alabama Crop Reporting Service.

In a monthly crop estimate, the agriculture agency reported that the 1954 crop now looks like about 650,000 bales. That would be 313,000 bales less than last year.

Yield per acre was cut 28 pounds, and is indicated at 257 pounds. That would be far less than the average crop for the past 10 years.

During the past month, the crop suffered fromdry weather in all sections of Alabama except in the southeast counties. There, the plants were far enough along for the dry weather not to matter.

Boll weevils, which usually cut heavily into Alabama's cotton production, made little headway in the dry weather this year.

Picking ranges from nearly complete in South Alabama to just beginning in North Alabama.

Cattlemen Ask Disaster Area Tag For State

Alabama cattlemen urged Secretary of Agriculture Benson yesterday to declare the entire state a disaster area to combat what they called the worst drought in Alabama history.

A telegram to Benson, with copies to all Alabama congressmen, was sent by President M. C. Shallworth of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association following a meeting of directors.

The wire appealed for immediate aid to make government-owned grain, hay and seed meal available to farmers at reduced prices, similar to the drought relief extended to part of the state last year.

"Alabama drought worst in history," the telegram said. "Hay and grain crops absolute failure. No grass now growing. Immediate action mandatory and urgent."

Some Farmers Haul Water As Government Refuses Further Aid

The drouth situation in Bullock County has grown considerably worse in the last 15 days.

The Herald made a thorough check of the top farm administrators throughout the county last Monday. Those interieweed were County Agent J. M. Bolling, Robert W. Rhodes, County Supervisor Farmers Home Administrator; Walter Ellis, President Farm Bureau; B. R. Dunn, work unit conservationists, and Earl P. Brannon, ASC county office manager.

The situation in the county is this, briefly:

Hay Crop: 20 percent of normal. Two weeks ago it was estimated that it would be 40 percent of normal.

Pasture: 30 to 35 percent of normal. Two weeks ago it was estimated pastures would hold at probably 60 percent of normal.

Cotton: 70 percent of normal. Two weeks ago it was estimated that the cotton yield would be about 75 percent of normal.

Peanuts: Two weeks ago it was estimated the peanut crop would be about 80 percent of normal. Today it is estimated that about 30 percent would be nearer correct. At the time of the original survey it looked better because vines seemed healthy. Upon careful inspection it was found that the crop was far below original estimates. This will also affect peanut hay.

Corn: 40 percent of normal. The yield in Bullock county averages about 15 bushels per acre in normal years. This means about 6 bushels per acre. Even in normal years there is not enough corn produced to run the county, and corn has been purchased outside the area.

Livestock: Two weeks ago it was estimated the increase in sales in the county of beef cattle was 40 percent. It is now estimated that at least 50 percent increase in selling due to drouth. If no help comes from the government, county farm officials estimated that this figure would increase from 25 to 30 percent more in late summer or fall.

Gov. Gordon Persons has been trying to get the federal government to provide drought disaster aid to Alabama farmers. Part of the program has been approved, and Bullock county has been included as eligible for disaster loans where farmers could not obtain them elsewhere. However, Bullock County farm representatives stated that what the county needed was low cost feed. They could obtain feed this winter they pointed out that unless farmers would be forced to sell livestock because they could not feed them through the winter.

There is no question of the need for such relief in the state, Persons has told two representatives of the federal government, R. B. McLeish, chief administrator of the Farmers Home Administration, and K. L. Scott, chief of the U. S. Agriculture Department's credit service.

Furthermore, the governor told the two, Alabama wants no more than other states are getting. He said he didn't know what the drought conditions are in other states but "I do know Alabama is in bad shape."

Persons is attempting to get Alabama recognized by the federal government as a drought disaster area so the farmers will be entitled to get low-cost feed and grain.

In refusing such a designation a few days ago, the Agriculture Department said drought conditions in the state were "spotty."

Further checks will be made on conditions in Alabama, McLeish and Scott said and promised prompt action on the renewed request.

1b 1954

Improved Status Of Negro Tobacco Farmer Is Cited

Informer p.20
Sat 10-9-54

NEW YORK, N. Y.— Independent Negro tobacco farmers, whose numbers have more than tripled in the past three decades, were cited as an integral part of the American tobacco industry in an educational exhibit depicting the Negro's role in the tobacco industry, which was unveiled here recently by P. Lorillard Company, makers of Old Gold and Kent cigarettes. Houston Texas

The exhibit, titled "Brown Skin and Bright Leaf," pictured Mr. and Mrs. Sam Crawford, prosperous Maryland tobacco farming family, as outstanding examples of the recent progress that has been made by Negroes who grow and harvest the Nation's third most important field crop.

The exhibit, depicting the entire story of the Negro's contribution to tobacco from the early seventeenth century down to the present day, will be shown by P. Lorillard Company, America's oldest tobacco manufacturers, as a public service to interested groups and conventions thoughout the country.

FARM CENSUS BEGINS IN ARKANSAS COUNTIES

Preliminary Task Started With Field Office

Special to The Commercial Appeal

JONESBORO, Ark., Sept. 11.—Preliminary work on the 1954 census of agriculture in 23 Northeast Arkansas counties has started here with establishment of a field office, of which Homer M. Cook is supervisor.

Mr. Cook said the census will be taken during the fall under direction of the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. It will be conducted on farms only.

Preliminary work includes organization of the field office, interviewing applicants for jobs, selecting and training office clerks, field crew leaders and enumerators.

Territory assigned to this office for the census includes Clay, Greene, Craighead, Poinsett, Mississippi, Crittenden, Cross, St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, Izard, Fulton, Sharp, Randolph, Lawrence, Cleburne, Stone, Independence, Jackson, Woodruff, Prairie, White and Monroe.

Negro Families Top Arkansas Homes Contests

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — (ANP)— Two Negro families took first place last week in the annual state Live-at-Home contest here.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Emma Reed of Route 2, Wilmet, were winners in the owner division and Mr. and Mrs. Sam and Dora Moore of Route 1, Holly Grove, placed first in the tenant division.

Both families received prizes of $100. The two couples will compete in Memphis this month for a $250 grand prize along with families from Missouri, Mississippi and Tennessee.

250,000 Negro Farm Homes Improved Through U. S. Extension Program

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Nearly 250,000 Negro farm homes have been improved in construction, maintenance, diet of family, care of children, or in family relations as the result of the Extension Service home demonstration programs, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced in connection with the observance of National Home Demonstration week, May 2-8.

As part of the annual observance, 1,500,000 rural women, including 129,000 Negro homemakers, joined in a program calling attention to their achievements in home improvements and the benefits they have gained through membership in home demonstration clubs.

Programs included tours of rural homes in thousands of communities, teas and meetings. In part, this is a recruiting drive for new club members. Theme of the observance was: "Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World.

Among colored homemakers, there were 5,225 organized clubs with a membership of 128,695, with 239,663 farm homes being influenced toward better homemaking practices as a result of the home demonstration program. Nearly 54,000 of these homes were reached last year for the first time by 428 home agents and supervisors, and 25,000 volunteer leaders of homemakers in the 17 southern states.

Some of the specific accomplishments include assisting 130,000 families in improving their diets, 260,000 in producing more food for home use, 156,000 with food conservation problems, 65,000 in improving their housekeeping, 82,000 with clothing construction problems and 46,000 in improving family relationships.

Complementing the staff of home demonstration agents are 410 farm agents and supervisors who help farmers with technical problems relating to the production of crops and the raising of livestock and poultry. The work of the farm and home agents is one means by which land-grant colleges extend their educational program beyond their campuses to rural people in their homes and on their farms.

Altogether, these agents serve more than 400,000 of the South's 550,000 Negro farm operators.

Farm, Home Development Under Study By Alabama Experts

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Aal — Farm and Home Development, that new phase of Extension work, was thoroughly studied here last week by workers assigned to introduce it to the Negro farm families in eight Alabama counties. State and district workers who will assist in this effort got their share of training too.

"It has the old Extension objectives combined and meshed together for the best total," said Director P. O. Davis, API Extension Service. Auburn, in giving the background and objectives of Farm and Home Development, during the opening session of the training meeting. Director Davis went on to point out that the new approach will be:

1. Increase net farm income.
2. Enrich family living.
3. Enrich the soil and improve the home.
4. Improve the quality of products produced.
5. Reduce cost per unit of production.
6. Help balance the national agricultural supply in relation to the market at home and abroad.
7. And in brief, put a farm and home, as a unit, on a better and more efficient basis for the present and the future.

Dr. E. V. Smith, dean of agriculture and experiment station director told of new research which is available for use in the new approach to improved farming and homemaking.

Agents selected to open up the work with Negro farm families in eight Alabama counties and receiving the training are as follows:

W. Q. Scott, Madison County; D. L. Farrar, Lawrence; H. B. Jackson, Tuscaloosa; R. T. Thurston, Macon; J. T. Alexander, Montgomery; C. D. Scott, Dallas; J. H. Ross, Butler, and W. C. Odom, Monroe. These agents will devote most of their time to the new phase of the program. Assistant agents, added recently, will carry on the general Extension program in the eight counties.

Background objectives, policy, and other essential information were discussed the first day of the training meeting. Participants, besides Director Davis and Dean Smith were Associate Director J. L. Lawson, Foy Helms, economist; D R. Harbor, agronomist, and A. W Jones, marketing specialist, all of the API Extension Service, Auburn.

With a view of the job to be done the group went on getting into the "how" phase. Subject matter specialist of the API Extension Service and Experiment Station, Auburn and Headland, led discussions and conducted demonstrations. Discussions and demonstrations were on all major farm enterprises in the state—row crops, livestock, poultry, pasture, horticulture, and timber. Machinery and insects and disease controls were studied too.

Farm planning and management, essentials of the program, came in for a major part of the training course. Step by step procedures were followed in selecting and planning long-time programs and annual plans of work. A Macon County farm was selected where the group went for a complete demonstration in studying the family and farm capabilities and planning a long-time program. Later, agents presented maps and situations of farms back in their counties which were studied for improvements.

At the end of the week, there were reviews, a summary, and conclusions of what had gone on in the intensive week of study.

Both Director Davis and Associate Director Lawson took part in the closing session. State Leader W. B. Hill and the Tuskegee Institute Extension staff of men workers took part in the week-long training meeting.

The new assistants, who will carry on the regular Extension program in the eight counties are as follows:

Percy L. Ashford, Madison; Benjamin B. Fields, Lawrence; W. L. Shakleford, Tuscaloosa; Josh C Moore, Macon; Robert F. Jones Montgomery; Grover C. Brooks Dallas; Addre Bryant, Butler, and Jerry A. Green, Monroe.

Extension Agents Featured In New P. Lorillard Series

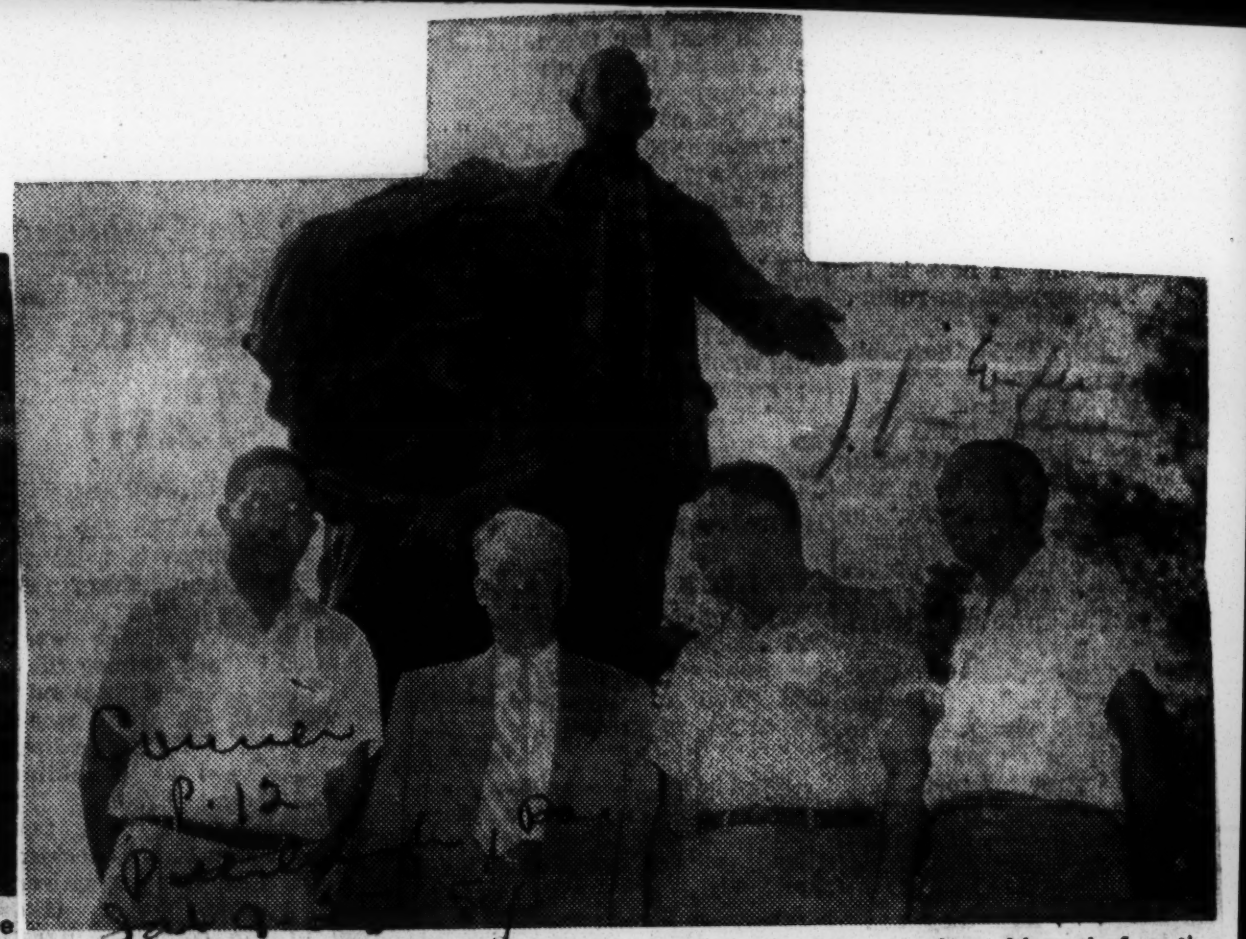
NEW YORK, N. Y. — The important work carried on by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's many Negro extension agents is featured in a new exhibit, which was unveiled here today by P. Lorillard Company.

The exhibit depicting the Negro's role in the tobacco industry, featured Negro extension agents' role in improving the lot of the Negro tobacco farmer and the quality of his yield.

The work of John Mitchell, national leader of the South's agricultural extension program, and John Finch, typically active Negro county agent, in teaching new farming methods to Negro tobacco farmers was described in the exhibit.

Titled 'Brown Skin and Bright Leaf," the exhibit will be shown as a public service by P. Lorillard Company, America's oldest tobacco manufacturers, to interested groups and conventions throughout the nation.

AGENTS MEET — Everett Mitchell, second from left, director of the network program—the National Farm and Home Hour — is shown in front of the Booker T. Washington monument with some of the officials of the National Negro County Agricultural Agents Association following his address before the body's annual convention recently at Tuskegee Institute, Ala. Left to right are T. H. Black, Guthrie, Okla., outgoing president; Mr. Mitchell, William Pierce, El Dorado, Ark., new president, and H. B. Jackson, Tuscaloosa, Ala., treasurer.



AGENTS MEET — Everett Mitchell, second from left, director of the network program—the National Farm and Home Hour — is shown in front of the Booker T. Washington monument with some of the officials of the National Negro County Agricultural Agents Association following his address before the body's annual convention recently at Tuskegee Institute, Ala. Left to right are T. H. Black, Guthrie, Okla., outgoing president; Mr. Mitchell, William Pierce, El Dorado, Ark., new president, and H. B. Jackson, Tuscaloosa, Ala., treasurer.

J. T. ALEXANDER, Farm Agent, Montgomery County; Miss A. M. Boyton, Home Demonstration Agent; Joe Bradford, assistant editor, Negro Farmer, Tuskegee Institute; F. T. McQueen, resident teacher-trainer, Tuskegee Institute; T. R. Agnew, 4-H Club leader, Tuskegee Institute; G. W. Taylor, district agent, Tuskegee Institute; W. B. Hill, state leader, Extension Service, Tuskegee Institute; E. L. Donale, assistant teacher-trainer, Tuskegee Institute; Joe Hixon, Alabama Power Company; Raul Paine, Chamber of Commerce; Mark Johnson, vice-president, Union Bank and Trust Company; G. C. Passmore, Aberdeen Angus Breeders, Montgomery; Hayes Green, Capital Stock Yards; Glenn Stebbins, Union Stock Yards; Fred Clymer, Swift and Company; T. C. Reid, Alabama Agriculture Center Board; C. Edd Teague, Agriculture Director, Chamber of Commerce; Gordon Swearingen, Tatum, Embry, Sauber, Union Stock Yards, met at the Chamber of Commerce office in the City Hall Friday to formulate plans relative to the "Fat Stock Show and Sale" for Negro boys and girls to be held beginning April 20. It was decided that S. H. Settler, director of agriculture, Langston University, will be the judge and that a banquet will be held at the local college. It was also stated by C. A. Williams, district agent, Tuskegee Institute, that approximately 225 calves will be shown. Directors of the Stock Yards said that the Coliseum will be finished next year so that the show can be held there.

DR. JOHN MITCHELL, extension worker in U.S. Department of Agriculture, shows group of seniors from rural high school near Burlington, N. C., artificial cow on display at the department. Rivera G. Mitchell, Dr. Mitchell's son (third from left), Pleasant Grove science teacher, brought the students to Washington on educational tour.

Va. Home Agents See Latest Work Of Agricultural Reseach Center

As a means of further equipping themselves to serve the rural people of Virginia, 29 colored home demonstration agents and two supervisors spent Tuesday at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Center at Beltsville, Md. observing some of the latest work in testing the strength of fabrics, arranging step-saving kitchens, and in selecting a washing machine.

The group, headed by Miss Blanche D. Harrison and Mrs. Thelma Hewlett, was shown through the laboratories where research in home economics and human nutrition is carried out by a staff of scientists. Mrs. Zelta Rodenwold, research home economist, who conducted the tour and

MISS ROWENA DOWLEN, textile specialist, shows some of the Virginia some guests a piece of cotton muslin which has been tested for strength by the machine in background. Left to right, Mrs. Mattie Gilliam, Louisa County; Mrs. Ezelle M. Gregory, Maryland district and hostess to the group; Miss Dowlen, Miss Ruby Mae Warren, Nelson County; Miss Blanche D. Harrison, district agent; Virginia State college, Petersburg Va.; and Mrs. Wilhelmina H. Baughan, King and Queen County. USDA.

MRS. ENID S. ROSS, (Photo at left) household equipment specialist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, gives a group of Virginia home agents pointers on selecting a washing machine. Left to right, Mrs. Ross, Miss Alice Hobday, Pittsylvania County; Mrs. Gloria G. Jones, Sussex County; Mrs. Sara H. Winfield, Brunswick County; Mrs. Ernestyne G. Jeffries, Northumberland; Miss Elsie Copeland, Chesterfield; and Miss Dorothy Coleman, Bedford. Twenty nine agents and two supervisors spent a day at the center last week observing some of the recent research. Research Center laboratory is in Beltsville, Md.

training session, spent about half the morning session in the Department's model, step-saving U-kitchen showing the home agents how the kitchen was designed and how some of its features may be incorporated in any kitchen to save time and energy.

The kitchen was equipped with everything from revolving cabinet shelves to a garbage unit with its own small outside door which enables a farmer to empty it without coming inside the kitchen.

In the washing machine testing room, the agents saw a half dozen different types of machines which were being tested for various qualities, such as the size of load each washes best, and the type of mechanism which obtains the most satisfactory results in the washing process.

Also the group was shown machines which test the strength of fabrics and measure the longevity of hosiery and the wearing qualities of garments.

But the agents didn't limit their observations to homemaking. They also visited the livestock and poultry divisions. There they got some pointers on the breeding of meat-type hogs which produce more lean cuts and less lard fat, and on breeding heat resistant cows for the deep South. The scientists also explained to the home agents how they are able to determine whether or not a calf will be a high milk producer as a mature cow.

In the poultry section, the tour group saw dozens of varieties and crosses of chickens and turkeys, including the popular Beltsville White turkey. And the women were told about breeding and feeding for quality egg production.

Mrs. Ezelle M. Gregory, Maryland district home agent, served as hostess. She was accompanied by one of her agents, Mrs. Hattie Holmes, and a member of her office staff, Mrs. Katherine B. Dickerson.

The group had lunch with the research staff in the Center's cafeteria where they were joined by some officials of the Washington office of the Department. These included: A. H. Fuhr of Farm Credit Administration, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Greer and Mrs. Margaret Whitlock of Farmers Home Administration, Mrs. Ann G. Sanford of Extension Service, and Sherman Briscoe of the Office of Information.

Thirty-two Virginia home agents visited the research center.

1b 1954

EXTENSION SERVICE

Nearly 250,000 Negro Farm Homes Improved

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Nearly a quarter of a million Negro farm homes have been improved in construction, maintenance, diet of the family, care of the children, or in family relations as a result of the Extension Service home demonstration program, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced in connection with the observance of National Home Demonstration Week, May 2-8.

As part of the annual observance, over a million and a half rural women, including 129,000 colored homemakers, will join in a program designed to call attention to their achievements in home improvements and to the benefits they have gained through membership in home demonstration clubs.

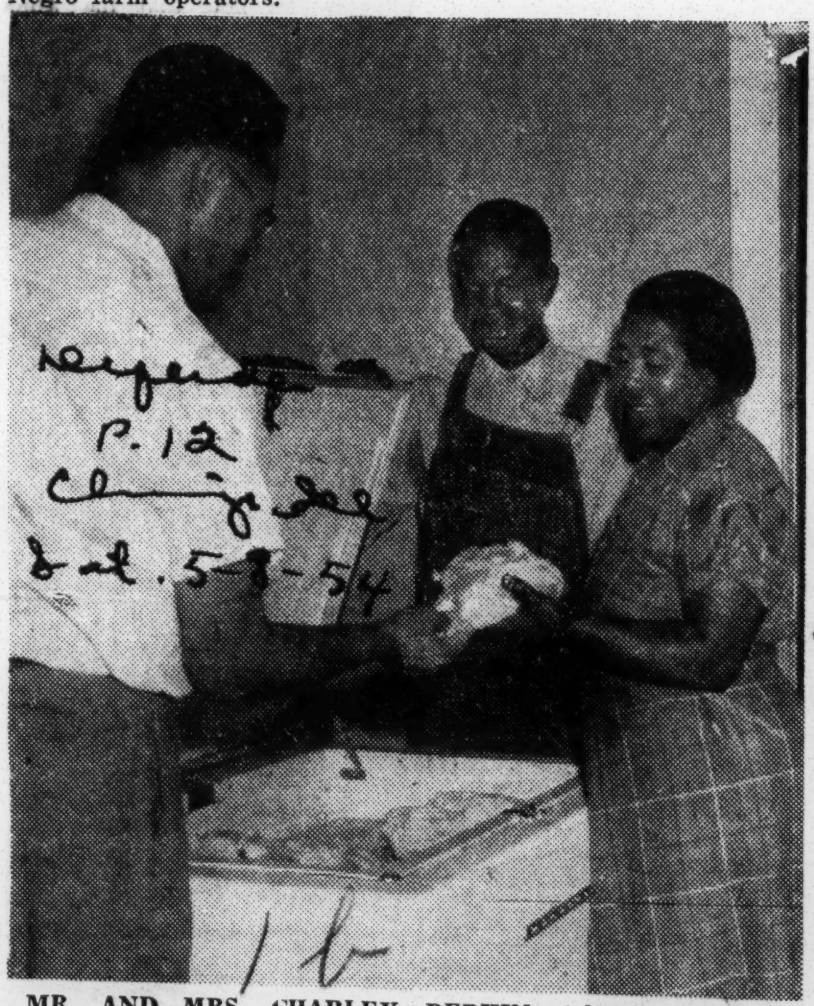
The programs will include tours of rural homes in thousands of communities, teas, and meetings. In part, this is a recruitment drive for new club members. Theme of the observance is: "Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World."

OVER 5,000 CLUBS

A look at the achievements of colored homemakers shows that they have 5,224 organized clubs with a membership of 128,695, and that 239,663 farm homes have been influenced toward better homemaking practices as a result of the home demonstration program. Nearly 54,000 of these homes were reached last year for the first time by the 428 colored home agents and supervisors and some 25,000 volunteer leaders of homemakers in the 17 Southern States.

Some of their specific accomplishments include assisting 139,000 families in improving their diets, 206,000 in producing more food for home use, 156,000 with food preservation problems, 65,000 in improving their housekeeping 92,000 with clothing construction problems, and 46,000 in improving family relationships.

Complementing the staff of home demonstration agents are 410 colored farm agents and supervisors who help farmers with technical problems relating to the production of crops and the raising of livestock and poultry. The work of the farm and home agents is one means by which the land-grant colleges extend their educational program beyond their campuses to rural people in their homes and on their farms. Altogether, these agents serve more than 400,000 of the South's 550,000 Negro farm operators.



MR. AND MRS. CHARLEY PERKINS (photo at left) of St. Joseph, La., have a good reason to observe National Home Demonstration Week, May 2-8, because they are one of the nation's 240,000 Negro families who have been aided in improving their home through Extension Service teaching. In photo, they show a broiler from their freezer to Assistant State Agent R. J. Courtney (left) of Louisiana Extension Service. In photo at right, Mrs. Theodore Gaines (right) of Russellville, Ky., proudly shows an attractive suit she made to Miss Shella Proctor, her home demonstration agent. Mrs. Gaines and her husband are tobacco, corn and livestock farmers.

AT RICHMOND THEATRES — Dr. Thomas M. Campbell and John W. Mitchell document the forward strides made by the country's many Negro farmers in the dramatic film report, "Agriculture".

This interesting subject plays the Booker T. and the Walker Theatres, Richmond, Sunday through Wednesday, May 9-12.

SCOTT-MISS. COUNTY AGENT

Miss Martha E. Farris, Miss.-Scott County agent expert in the field of Home Economics, is rendering invaluable services in rural areas training the people today to become experienced homemakers tomorrow. She has approximately 100 women enrolled in extension clubs in the two counties. She has about 500 members enrolled in the 4-H Club.

Miss Farris, native of Enolia, Mo., is a graduate of Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Mo. She is a member of the Baptist denomination and also a member of the Missouri Home Demonstration Agents Association.

Miss Farris is at present bus engaged in trying to make rangements to take the 4-H-ers an outdoor camping trip to Ca Derricote. This is the second y that this project has been put for Negro 4-H-ers in Southe Missouri.

Miss Farris is quite proud James Warfield, 4-H-er in Sc County, who has put out o 3000 tomato plants this year. plans to do truck gardening bu ness, selling his tomatoes on ma kets in Memphis and St. Louis

The county agent definitely e dorses the CLEAN UP, PAI UP, CAMPAIGN. Miss Far broadcasts weekly over stati KSIM every Friday at 11:05 a.

Negro County Agent To Get Assistant

J. T. Alexander, Negro count farm agent, is soon to have a assistant.

Alexander was informed thi week that a new man will be sen here to relieve him of routin duties, allowing him to spen most of his time in teachin principles of balanced farming.

Until now the Negro agent has had no assistant. The new man is to be paid entirely with federal funds. Lem Edmonson, the white agent, has his full quota of two assistants already.

Highlights from the Negro Farmer, published in the interest of Farm and Home Demonstration and 4-H Club work through the Negro Division of the Alabama Extension Service, at Tuskegee Institute:

Alabama Home Demonstration agents received fascinating hints and valuable information on making and arranging display during their annual training meeting at Tuskegee Institute. Miss Alice Peavy, API Home Furnishing specialist of Auburn, Ala., conducted the demonstrations, assisted by Miss A. H. Boynton, Montgomery, Ala., and Miss Annie P. Robbins, Talladega, Ala.

Miss L. C. Hanna, a former state extension home demonstration agent, was the recipient of a gift, presented by Mrs. L. R. Daily of Tuskegee Institute, Macon County home agent. This annual presentation was established after Miss Hanna left the service.

Miss Daily, a veteran of more than 25 years of service herself, had the honor of presenting awards to Miss L. V. Battle, Autauga County; J. A. Kitchens, Lee County, and Miss Annie M. Bonyton, Montgomery County.

Oaer 400 4-H Club memoers leaders, and agents arrived or the Tuskegee Institute campus Monday, July 12, for their annual state encampment. Members of the Tuskegee Institute faculty and others served as instructors and speakers for the camp program. API Extension specialists of Auburn gave assistance.

Misses Voncille and Chinetta DeRamus of Autauga County were among the 4-H'ers coming to Tuskegee Institute for state elimination contests, July 12. They were district winners of Mt. Meigs last spring, and will be trying for state honors in bread demonstrations. Macola Paschal of Elmore County will be in the running for state champion in dairy foods. They will meet winners from six other district contests.

Misses Bergerlia Hereford, Pauline Hammonds and Bessie Price, Madison 4-H'ers, appeared in a two-act play, "The Farmer's Daughter," written and presented by Madison County 4-H'ers under the direction of Miss Agrippa Davis, home agent. This play netted the 4-H Council over $80.

Joseph Harable of Roanoke County 4-H Club, trained his grand champion Hereford calf, a 1165-pound stere, which was bought by Delchamps Stores of Montgomery for $57 per hundred pounds.

TIREMENT GIFT—L. H. Martin, center, who will retire soon as county agent of Somerset County, Md., after 38 years of service, proudly caresses a traveling bag he has just been presented by fellow agents shown in the picture. The presentation was made last week at a dinner at Washington, D. C. Standing beside Mr. Martin at his left is Mrs. Martin. They make their home in Princess Anne, Md. Others in the picture include Dr. J. M. Gwin, director of the Maryland Extension Service, partially hidden by the honoree, and Mrs. Ezelle M. Gregory, district home agent, standing behind Mrs. Martin. (USDA Photo)

Farm Agents Hold Meeting At Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Set. 19—The second annual two-day tractor clinic was held at Tuskegee Institue last Tuesday and Wednesday, training county agents and leaders how to or ganize and conduct care and maintenance courses.

Seventy-two agents and leader from the 36 counties where Ne gro Extension workers are lo cated took part in the clinic spon sored by the Pan-Am Souther Corporation of New Orleans, La Machinery dealers and manufac ers, sponsoring oil company dis tributors, and the API Extensio Service co-operated in conductin the clinic.

Phases of care and mainte nance studied were servicing the air cleaner, ignition system, cool ing system, studying the fuel sys tem and lubricating the ma chine. Farm safety, tire care and machinery storage were oth er topics studied and discussed And special time was alotted for discussing the leaders' job and how to organize a county or com munity tractor clinic.

Following the first day of ac tivities, the agents and leader were guests of the Pan-Am Company at a banquet held in the Pine Room of Dorothy Hall Dean L. A. Potts, Tuskegee In stitute school of agriculture, was guest speaker. Dean Potts point ed out the seriousness of low income among all farmers in the South. And he told the agents and leaders, "You have a great re sponsibility helping to raise the productive capacity of over 500,- 000 Negro farmers in the south ern states, and especially in your counties and communities." Dur ing the banquet, each of the 35 leaders were presented attend ance certificates.

Upon returning to their home counties, agents and leaders will organize and conduct both coun tywide and community clinics for 4-H Club members with tractor maintenance projects. Local pan Am distributors will supply ma terials for the county and com munity courses. And assistance will be given by farm machinery dealers.

The clinic was under the di rection of T. R. Agnew, state 4-H Club agent of Tuskegee In stitute. J. T. Gaillard, API agri cultural engineer, Auburn, super vised the training courses and assisted in all of the activities. Others taking part in the train ing program were H. E. Logue, state 4-H leader and W. T. Cox, API agricultural engineer, both of Auburn; George Paris, FHA supervisor, Tuskegee Institute; H. O. Knauff, International Har vester, Birmingham; R. L. Bux, U.S. Rubber Co., Atlanta; R. D. Willis, John Deere, Opelika, and J. W. Mayfield, Allis Chalmers, Talladega. W. C. McFadden, Pan-Am representative of Fulton, Miss., was unable to attend as scheduled.

Agents and leaders composing the group were Autauga County, Worthy Hughes and Alga Houser; Barbour, Reuben Gilmore and Elijah Lohnman; Bullock, Y. C. Nance and Henry Perry; Butler, Addre Bryant and Edward Dan iel; Choctaw, J. T. Banks and Lewis Jackson; Colbert, D. R. Salter and Carl Eggleston; Cone cuh, J. B. Jordan and Frank Oliver; Coosa, M. B. Jackson and Tillman Hardy Jr.; Crenshaw, T. J. Foreman and Marvin Richburg; Dallas, Grover C. Brooks and Charlie Brown; El more, Roscoe Lee and James Lacey; Greene, F. L. Jackson and Isede Branch; Hale, Richard Cobb and Douglas Bolden; Hen ry, Felix Blackwood and Ulysses Stanford; Houston, T. J. Dumas and Spurgeon Bass; Jefferson, P. L. White and Leroy Hardy; Lauderdale, C. G. Leslie and Jesse Sewell; Lawrence, Benja min R. Fields and Leroy Owens; Lee, J. A. Kitchens and Merus Lipscomb; Limestone, C. H. Mc Daniel and Ben Troupe; Lowndes, Scott Billingsley Jr., and Percy Johnson; acon, John C. Moore and S. M. Felton; Madi son, Percy L. Ashford and A. C. Nance; Marengo, C. S. Foreman and Crenshaw Scott Sr.; Monroe, Jerry A. Greene and W. L. How ard; Montgomery, Robert F. Jones and Julius C. Norman; Morgan, T. W. Bridges and Wal lace Orr; Perry, L. C. Johnson and Booker T. Melton; Randolph, Theodore Shumpert and J. T. Wilks; Russell, M. H. Eldridge and Major Ivery; Sumter, H. J. Spears and Edward Kimble; Tal ladega, George Peasant and Mil ledge Draper; Tallapoosa, W. L. Boyston and Melvin Kelly; Tus caloosa, W. L. Shackleford and Peter Brown Jr., and Wilcox, W. E. Street and Henry Ervin.

DR. JOHN W. MITCHELL—National Extension Leader, USDA Washington, D. C. (right), receives a silver serving tray presented to him by state and federal U. S. Department of Agriculture workers at a regional meeting in Atlanta, Nov. 1-5. Jones, State Extension leader of North Carolina, makes the presentation. The gift as a token of thanks to Dr. Mitchell for his long years of service to farm families throughout the 17 Southern and border states.

Farm Extension Leaders To Close 5-Day Meeting

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
P.1 Fri 11-5-54

Extension workers from seventeen Southern States climax a five day meeting today at the Butler Street YMCA. The farm leaders have explored agricultural and conservation problems particular to their regions.

Nationally-recognized farm experts have addressed the extension leaders during their sessions.

Among those attending the meeting are:

T. R. Betton, Little Rock, Ark.; Joseph Bradford, Wetumpka, Ala.; L. J. Washington, Home Administration USDA, Washington, D. C.; Paul O. Brooks, Langston, Okla.; R. J. Courtney, state agent, Southern University; Mrs. Amelia J. Lewis, Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., assistant state home demonstration agent.

W. E. Ammons, Jackson, Miss.; George W. Dean, E. N. Williams and Wayman Johnson of Orangeburg, S. C.; P. H. Stone and A. S. Bacon of Savannah, Ga.

Thomas Norman, Jr., Jackson, Miss.; assistant state 4-H leader; R. E. James, Greensboro, N. C., state executive; S. E. Marshall, district agent, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Va.

C. A. Williams, district agent, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; L. W. Newsome, Va. State College, Petersburg, Va.; W. B. Hill, state leader, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala.; J. W. Jeffries, assistant Negro state agent, A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C.; Mrs. Marian B. Paul, state supervisor of the Negro Home Demonstration Work, Columbia, S. C.; Marshall V. Brown, state administration assistant, Prairie View.

Alexander Hurse, Negro state Extension Work club agent, Savannah, Ga.; Miss Floy L. Britt, district home demonstration agent Tallahassee, Fla.

Mrs. Mable Price Washington, assistant state supervisor N. H. D. Work, State A and M College Orangeburg, S. C.; Mrs. Ruby C. Carroway, district home agent Greensboro, N. C.; Mrs. Lula W. Martin, State 4-H Club agent Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Miss Alberta Dishmon, state 4-H Club agent, Jackson, Miss.; Miss Camella Weems, assistant state agent Negro Work, Savannah State College, Savannah, Ga.

W. H. Williamson, state leader, Nashville, Tenn.; L. A. Toney, state leader, West Virginia State College, Institute, West Virginia.

Miss Bessie L. Walton, state agent, Home Demonstration Work, Nashville, Tenn.; Miss Mary E. Woods, Home and Youth agent, Dover, Delaware; E. C. Davis, state leader, Prairie View College, Texas; Mrs. Pauline R. Brown, supervisor of Home Demonstration Work, also of Prairie View.

Mrs. Fannie Mae Boone, district housing demonstration agent, Little Rock, Ark.; Mrs. Tanner J. Livisay, district HDA, Princeton, West Virginia; Mrs. Thelma T. Hewlett, district agent, Ashland, Virginia; T. R. Agnew, state 4-H club leader, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., and Miss Ruth L. Rivers, district agent also of Tuskegee; Hazel O. King, district supervisor, Langston University, Oklahoma.

Ella B. Stackhouse, home demonstration agent, Coruthersville, Mo.; Ryland L. Holmes, county agent, Lexington Park, Maryland; J. A. Gresham, A and M University, Tallahassee, Fla.

Extension workers to go to Atlanta

Afro-American p.19

INSTITUTE, W. Va. — Extension service supervisors from 15 southern states will meet in a regional conference in Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 1-5, Director C. M. Ferguson of the Federal Extension Service announced last week. The sessions will be held at the Butler St. YMCA.

Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 11-6-54

An important feature of the conference will be a discussion of the new farm and home unit approach which is being developed in an expanded and more intensive agricultural and home-making program by Extension Service.

The conference is being coordinated by Dr. John W. Mitchell, extension national leader, and Charles A. Sheffield, extension field agent. Representing West Virginia will be L. A. Toney state leader, and Mrs. Turner J. Livesay, district home demonstration agent.

Extension Workers From 17 States In 5-Day Meet Here

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
P.1

Farm extension leaders from 17 Southern States and the District of Columbia opened a five-day meeting Monday at the Butler St. YMCA.

During the week-long session a procession of nationally-recognized experts will explore their problems.

Among the authorities to be heard are Dr. George D. Halsey, R. W. Shoffer, P. O. Davis, Mrs. Fannie Mae Boone, Thomas L. Ayers, George Foster, L. J. Washington, Ralph Fulgam and Charles A. Sheffield.

The meeting is sponsored by the Federal Extension Service-USDA.

Sat. 11-6-54

P. O. Davis made the opening address of the conference Monday. He discussed "The Expanded Farm and Home Development Unit Approach—Old and New Problems Confronting Us."

R. E. Jones discussed "How We Will Do Farm and Home Development With Owners and Tenants in North Carolina."

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Today's schedule will be featured by a talk by Dr. Halsey on 'Supervision—What It Is—What Are Its Functions—How It Is Done Efficiently—and Where Most of the Emphasis Is Placed."

Mr. Shoffer will speak on "The Responsibility of State Leaders in Recruiting, Installing, Training and Supporting bw and Supervising County Personnel and New Agents."

A panel will have as discussants W. B. Hill, P. H. Stone, Mrs. Marion Paul, Stanley Marshall and Mrs. Bessie Walton.

The afternoon session will be highlighted by talks by Mrs. Fannie May Boone on "How We Can Increase in States Home Production and Conservation of Garden Produce."

Mr. Thomas L. Ayers will talk on "The Effect of Diverted Acres on Low Income Families—What Can Be Done to Increase Income."

Georgia leaders attending the sessions include Miss Camilla Weems, Alexander Hurse, W. A. Sutton and P. H. Stone.

Farmer Home Has Loans $284,000,000 To Farmers

WASHINGTON — Negro farmers —mainly tenants and sharecroppers - have borrowed more than 284 million dollars from the Farmers Home Administration since the program began in 1937, reports the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

This credit aid includes $43,483,000 to 7,500 families for farm ownership loans, both direct and insured; $2,688,000 to 57 families for farm housing loans, and $238,000,000 to 270,000 families for operating loans, or money to buy feed, seed, fertilizer; workstock, equipment and similar items.

Altogether, white and colored farmers have borrowed $2,158,000,000 from the agency since its inception. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1954, alone, the farmers home loaned a record $292,452,800 to farmers and ranchers for drought aid, and to buy, enlarge, or improve farms and buildings, as well as to cover operating costs. A large proportion of the loans have gone to veterans.

The agency reports that the farmers already have repaid the Government $1,548,605,000 on the principal and $224,217,000 in interest. Although ownership borrowers have 40 years to repay their loans, large numbers, have paid out already, and many are ahead of schedule with their payments.

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Small Farmer Grosses Over $150 A Day Doing Custom Work

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

MARIANNA, Fla. — R. C. Myrick, a colored farmer of Marianna, Fla., who grosses over $150 a day off his peanut picker during the harvesting season, is proving to his neighbors that a small farmer can mechanize, says Florida District Extension Agent J. A. Gresham in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

To Mr. Myrick custom work with tractor-powered picker is one of the most important enterprises on his 100-acre diversified farm, and is an answer to his own mechanization problem and that of many of his neighbors. "I wouldn't be able to have a picker or a tractor," he explains, "unless I could pick peanuts for some of the other farmers."

After picking his own 10-ton crop, Mr. Myrick is available for custom work for miles around. Usually, he and his crew of seven are busy working for other farmers, both white colored, from September through October. The machine averages better than six tons a day for which he collects a service charge of $25 per ton.

In addition to his own tractor which powers the machine, his brother has a tractor which is used to bring the stacks of peanuts to the picker. The brothers work together during the harvest.

Mr. Myrick's other farm enterprises include corn, cotton, watermelons, field peas, sugarcane, hogs, sweet potatoes and beef cattle. "I raise a lot of crops but the drought has had me the last coupe of years" says the energetic farmer, "I don't know what I would've done without my picker and the income from custom work."

Mr. and Mrs. Myrick have been farming for more than 20 years. They started out as tennants, but were able to begin buying a farm of their own 12 years ago. The next year they bought a used peanut picker which helped them pay out their farm, and they have had a picker ever since. The one they now have was bought new for $1,400.

Three years ago, the Myricks moved into a new cement block home which their county farm and home agents, Virgil Elkins and Miss Virginia Dickens, helped them to plan. By doing part of the work themselves and by using some timber right off their place, they were able to build their new home for $3,200.

Their next move is to expand their herds of beef cattle and hogs. County Agent Elkins has already helped them develop improved pastures. With the drought hurting us almost every year," explains Mr. Myrick, "we have to keep a lot of irons in the fire."

FLORIDA

Fla. Farmer Grosses $150 Daily With Peanut Picker

FOR NINE YEARS, Mr. and Mrs. Myrick lived in this old house which is about to be razed. Three years ago, they moved into the modern cement block home in background which their county farm and home agents helped them to plan. Left to right: Miss Floy Britt, Florida district home agent; J. A. Gresham, district farm agent; Miss Virginia Dickens, county home agent; Mr. Myrick, and Virgil Elkins, county farm agent.

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Their next move is to expand

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R. C. MYRICK center, a farmer of Marianna, Fla., talks over the quality of this year's peanut crop with District Extension Agent J. A. Gresham, left; and County Agent Virgil Elkins.

READY FOR NEW YEAR'S SHOPPERS — Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Walker, center, of Leon County, Fla., are always ready — New Year's and year round — for shoppers who want fruits and vegetables. They own a 140-acre farm and operate a stand Wednesdays and Saturdays in the Tallahassee city market. Sometime they gross as much as $75 a week. They are showing the quality of their products to three Florida Extension workers. Left to right are: Miss Floy Britt, district home agent; J. A. Gresham, district farm agent; Mr. Walker, Mrs. Walker, and Mrs. Irie Mae Clark, their home demonstration agent. — (USDA Photo)

57 4-H Boys And Girls Receive Awards For High Achievements

Informer Houston, Texas Sat. 12-25-54

HENDERSON— The Mt. Hebron Baptist Church auditorium was the scene of a very impressive recognition program recently when an audience of two-hundred and fifty persons witnessed the presentation of honors and awards to fifty-seven Negro 4-H Boys and girls and their adult Leaders of Rusk County, for their outstanding achievements during 1954.

The 4-H boys and girls and the adult leaders had charge of the program. Jo Ann Allen was mistress of ceremony. Greetings from the 4-H Clubs of the county were given by Alice Marie Henderson. The 4-H Prayer, Motto and Pledge was said by the 4-H group, after which Riley Sturn, Jr., presented Mr. M. V. Brown, administrative assistant at Prairie View A. & M. College Extension Service, who presented the awards. After the awards had been presented, the Mt. Grove 4-H Club sang "The Good Old 4-H Club," a song that was composed and played by the music teacher of Mt. Grove Colored High School, Mrs. Ezell Jones. John Earl Henson, former President of London 4-H club, presented Mr. M. V. Brown a gift as a token from Rusk County.

Additional entertainment for this large audience was furnished by the Miles Chapel Gospel Choir of Tyler, Texas, Dr. J. N. Nelum, Director. They were presented by Clarence Pryor

Allen, Laneville; Gold Star Boy, John Earl Henson, London.

STATE AWARDS: Alice M. Henderson, Bread Demonstration, Starbailey; Billy Montgomery, Garden, Harmony Hill; Charlie Lester Augmon, Citizenship, Henderson; Johnny W. Johnson, Forestry, Mt. Grove.

Sat 12-25-54

COUNTY AWARDS: Gold Star, Jo Ann Allen, Laneville; John E. Henson, Overton. Leadership, Erma Roberson, London; Virtus Williams, Carlisle. Bread Demonstration, Alice M. Henderson, Starbailey; Artie J. Roberts, Mt. Grove; Martha Ann Booker, Mt. Grove. Home Improvement, Betty J. Kennedy, Starbailey. Achievement, Jo Ann Allen, Laneville; Bobby J. Rettig, Carlisle. Farm and Home Safety, Doris J. Hutchinson, Starbailey. Food Preparation, Mary V. Hammons, Starbailey. Canning, Floretta Young, Antioch. Clothing, Lou Ann Roberson, New Hope. Health, Donnell Lacy, New Hope; Sidney Coleman, Henderson. Citizenship, Nettie J. Bradford, Harris Chapel; Charley Lester Augmon, Henderson.

Dress Revue, Lawrencetta Hammons, London; Doris J. Hutchinson, Star Bailey; Robbie Sue Roberson, New Hope; Bobbie J. Bell, London; Ghevonne Tyiska, Mt. Grove. Poultry, Vernell Sturn, New Salem. Tractor, Riley Sturn-Salem; Harlee Wright, Jr., Greenville; Brooks Dansby, Jr., Mt. Salem; Harlee Wright Jr., Greenville; Brooks Dansby Jr., Mt. Grove. Field Crops, John T. Reddic, London. Forestry, Felton Pryor, Church Hill; Lincoln Field, Church Hill; Billy J. Johnson, Antioch. Garden, Billy Montgomery, Harmony Hill. Soil and Water, Rufus O'Neal, Antioch. Meat Animals, Wilbert Harkles, Greenville. Farm and Home Electric, Elvers Lacy, New Hope.

THE FOLLOWING RECEIVED CERTIFICATES: Poultry, Myrna Ballenger, Dirgin; Mary Walker, Henderson; Leadership, Vennie Hart, Carlisle; Shirley Bowens, Laneville; Patricia Blanton, Laneville; Effie Witcher, Henderson; Billie Fletcher, Henderson; Altheria Burrs, Henderson; Thorndyke Lewis, Henderson; Ida Henry, New Salem; Vernon Thompson, Star Bailey; Charles Hollis, Overton; Edith Louise Jones, London. Good Secretary; Elizabeth McCoy, Church Hill; C. Ann Hall, Mt. Enterprise; Mary Redwine, Goldsberry; Meat Animals; Halcolm Holliman, Henderson, Field Crop: McHilery Wright, Greenville. Forestry: Johnny W. Johnson, Mt. Grove. Music: Donnie J. Montgomery, Antioch.

The following received checks from Sears Roebuck Foundation for outstanding job in Poultry: Vernell Sturn, Mary Walker, Myrna Ballenger, John Earl Henson, James H. Redwine and Harlee A. Wright, Jr.

Delicious Refreshments were served the group by members of the County Home Demonstration Council.

Harris County 4-H Club Girl Is Nat'l Farm, Home Program Winner

Informer p. 24 Houston, Texas

HOUSTON — Fannie Ruby Mathews, Hufsmith 4-H Club girl, is state winner in the National 4-H Farm and Home Electric Program for 1954. For her participation Fannie received a $50.00 Bond and a Certificate of Recognition according to M. V. Brown, administrative assistant, Prairie View A and M College.

Fannie has been a club girl for six years and has taken an active part in poultry, clothing, food preservation, food preparation, home improvement and home electric. She has received county awards in poultry, clothing and Home electric demonstrations; participated in community and state 4-H dress revues and represented the county at State and District Camps. In 1952 Fannie was Gold Star girl.

Summarizing Fannie's record you will find that she has raised 1,010 chicks; made 58 articles of clothing; planned and prepared 1515 meals; conserved 39[illegible] pounds of fruits and vegetables by freezing and helped with the planning and remodeling of the family home.

Sat 12-25-54

Not only this, but Fannie has taken an active part in school and community activities; made talks at church and Sunday School; conducted demonstrations at club and other meetings, and influenced other girls to become members of the 4-H Club.

She has helped to build, adjust, repair, and install the following electrical appliance; Radio, television, washing machine, pump, iron, fan, hot plate, sewing machine and helped her brother and helped her brother and father and father wire the home.

Fannie says that she is proud of her accomplishments and considers her county and state awards; expensese paid trips certificates an special articles and pictures of her activities in the newspaper as her most satisfying experiences.

Fannie is the daughter of The Reverend and Mrs. Ed Matthews, Box 8, Hufsmith, Texas. They own a ten acre farm about one mile Southeast of Hufsmith. They have been of utmost help to her..giving her words of encouragement and providing the tools with which to complete her demonstrations.

First Negro IFYE Returns From 4-Month Stay Abroad

Ulysses Foreman, 22-year-old former 4-Her of Drew, Miss., who was the first Negro farm youth to participate in the International Farm Youth Exchange, returned recently from a four-month stay in Nigeria and England. He was accompanied by Keith Brown, a white farm youth of Jonesville, Mich.

Ulysses and Keith lived, worked and shared experiences with farm families in Nigeria, West Africa, for about three months, and then spent three weeks with farm families in England.

They were among 11 American youths who were abroad last year under the IFYE program, which is sponsored by Cooperative Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State Land - Grant Colleges, the National 4-H Foundation, the State Department, other government agencies and interested individuals and business organizations.

Mr. Foeman, now a junior at Mississippi Vocational College, Itta Bena, Miss., was awarded the trip, which costs approximately $2,000, on the basis of his 4-H projects in poultry raising and tractor maintenance. He was a clubber for 12 years, and was a delegate to the Regional 4-H Camp in 1950. The youth's parents operate a 20-acre farm.

Among the 135 foreign youths who were in this country last year on an exchange basis, was Abraham A. A. Fayemi of Nigeria. He was already here studying at the University of Illinois when his government delegated him as an IFYE for the summer. Mr. Fayemi spent three months with white farm families in Minnesota and California.

Officials of the 4-H Foundation say they expect four colored farm youths to go abroad next year, mainly to Europe. Purpose of the exchange program is to promote international understanding.

TO LEAVE FOR BRITAIN:

Farm Exchange Program picks A&T college senior

GREENSBORO, N.C. — An A. and T. College senior, Raphael Cuthbertson of Matthews, was notified last week that he had been selected as an International Farm Youth Exchange representative to Great Britain.

He will leave the states June 15 for a [illegible]-month stay in Wales, returning during the latter part of October.

The exchange program is made possible through the National 4H- Club Committee, Chicago, in co-operation with the National Extension Service's foreign office, Washington.

Student Leader

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks Cuthbertson of Route 3, young Cuthbertson is an active student leader at the college. He is president of Collegiate 4-H Club, captain of the Army ROTC unit and an honor student.

He joined the 4-H Club in his community in 1942 and since that time has carried projects in vegetable gardens, poultry production, dairy calf production, corn and pasture improvements.

At present, he is a member of the Student International Relations club, Student Agricultural association and Pan-Hellenic Council of Greek letter fraternities and sororities.

EXCHANGE STUDENT—Raphael Cuthbertson (left), Matthews, N.C., receives congratulations from R. E. Jones, state agent of the A.-T. extension service, after selection as an exchange student to Great Britain.

Youth named farm delegate

Goes to England in exchange plan

State 4-H Coub leader L. R. Harrill of Raliegh has announced that Mr. Raphael Cuthbertson, a former 4-H club member at Clear Creek High school has been selected as an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate to England, Wales and Scotland.

Cuthberton

Mr. Cuthbertson will be the second colored American to participate in the program according to Warren Schmidt, coordinator of International Farm Youth Exchange, a project of the Club Foundation.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks Cuthbertson, of Rte. 3, Matthews, Mr. Cuthbertson is a senior agriculture student at A. and T. College.

President Of 4-H Club

He is president of the Collegiate 4-H club and a captain in the Senior ROTC unit. He won many awards in 4-H Club work and was a delegate in 1949 to the Regional 4-H Club Camp at Nashville, Tenn.

At the time he was a student at Clear Creek School he was coached and trained by County Farm Agent W. B. Harrison.

Mr. Cutbertson entered 4-H club work in 1948. By the time he entered college in 1950, he had saved more than $500 from his project enterprises. He was second highest ranking student scholastically in his high school class.

Mr. Cuthbertson who is expected to leave for England in June, hopes to become a county agent after completing service in the Armed Forces.

COLORED FARM YOUTHS IN GROUP GOING ABROAD — Two colored farm youths of North Caroling joined six other International Farm Youth Exchange delegates last week in Washington, D. C., and headed for England and Wales where they will live with rural families until their return in November. Left to right front row are: Maxine Young, North Carolina ;Dorothy Hilton, Wisconsin; Barbara Larson, Oregon; Judy Ballard, California; and Martha Large, Illinois. Back row, Robert Armstrong, New Jersey; Norman C. Mindrum, executive director of the National 4-H Foundation which sponsors the IFYE program in cooperation with the Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture; Raphael Cuthbertson, North Carolina; and Bertram Berg, North Dakota. Altogether, 125 American farm youths will go abroad this year to live with rural families in 40 countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific, Near and Middle East. A similar number of foreign youths will live with farm families in America during the year. The program is designed to help promote world peace. No government money is used in the actual exchanges.

News Of Colored People

By MARY R FRAZIER

4-H Awards presented youths at Mt. Meigs one-day meeting—The National Committee on boys and girls club works along with Montgomery County Woodland Improvement Committee in pointing up some ways a man can be of great help to a boy. What the boy does: conducts a demonstration of at least two good forestry management practices on at least one acre of land. Some of these practices may be: eliminate hardwoods and other weed trees; mark trees for selective cutting; trim stands where necessary; protect from burning; plant seedlings; prevent grazing; make a forest inventory; estimate amount of lumber and other wood products on an acre; harvest trees so as to get maximum returns; participates in a one-day intensive county forestry school; measures acre of woodland; identifies trees on acre plot; keeps record and writes story of forestry work he has achieved before deadline date; attends county forestry achievement luncheon.

The Montgomery County winners of 1953: boys, 14-21 years, Melvin Flowers, Sprague, $11; Theodore Hendrix, Pike Rd., $8. The following persons received $4: Simon Tuggle, Pike Rd.; Wilson Walter, Sprague; Fred Charles, Cecil; Candis Gibbs, Mt. Meigs; Elisha McGraw, Letohatchie; William Campbell, Waugh; Percy McGhee, Cecil; William Wimston, Montgomery; Arnold Hopson, Mt. Meigs; Emmitt King, Waugh; Ham Jackson, Sprague; Edward Lee McQueen, Letohatchie. Montgomery County boys from 10-14 years of age will be continued in next issue.

Negro Winners In The State Record Book Contest

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Okmulgee county 4-H club boys won two thirds of the state places that were offered in the state record book contest, according to reports from the Stillwater office received by county agent, D. P. Lilly.

Son Taylor, Jr., Grayson 4-H club, won the $200.00 scholarship in citizenship donated by Senator Robert S. Kerr. This is the third year in succession that an Okmulgee county 4-H club boy has won this scholarship award.

Other winners of the scholarship award in previous years were Eugene Hutton, now a junior at Langston university majoring in agriculture, and Bennie Jennings, also of the Grayson 4-H club now in the Air Force.

Son Taylor was also a winner in tractor maintenance and won the $50.00 savings bond. In 1953 Taylor won a trip to the National 4-H club camp in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Clifford Wallace, Dunbar 4-H club, won first in farm and home electricity of a $50.00 savings bond donated by Westinghouse.

Author Pannell, Grayson 4-H club, first state winner in livestock, received a goal watch valued at $75 donated by Thomas E. Wilson.

Abraham Ferguson, Dunbar 4-H club, first place state winner in poultry won a $50.00 savings bond donated by Dearborn Motor Corp.

Herbert Collins, Jr., Grayson 4-H club, first state winner in soil and water conservation will be awarded a $50.00 savings bond donated by Firestone Rubber Company, and first in leadership which was a pencil and pen set donated by Edward Foss Wilson, Chicago, Illinois.

FIRST ALTERNATES: Jackie Hawkins, Grayson 4-H club, first alternate in field crops; James Tate, Wheatley, first alternate in dairy achievement; Lenard Allen, Grayson, first alternate in farm and home safety.

George Nonnette, Grayson, first alternate in gardening.

4 H'er Selected As Farm Youth Delegate To England

RALEIGH — A Mecklenburg county 4-H'er has been selected as an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate to England and Wales, L. R. Harrill, state 4-H Club leader, said this week.

Raphael Cuthbertson, Matthews, Route 3, will be the second American Negro to participate in the program, according to Warren Schmidt, coordinator of International Farm Youth Exchange, a project of the National 4-H Club Foundation.

MR. CUTHBERTSON, a senior agricultural student at A. and T. College, Greensboro, will leave for England in June. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Banks Cuthbertson and lives on an 86-acre farm. He entered 4-H work in 1942; by the time he entered college in 1950 he had saved more than $500 from his project enterprises, according to W. H. Harrison, farm agent in Mecklenburg. The overall value of his projects is $4,000, Mr. Harrison said.

RAPHAEL CUTHBERTSON

Mr. Cuthbertson is president of the Collegiate 4-H Club at A. and T. and is a captain in the Senior ROTC unit. He was an active 4-H'er at Clear Creek High School, holding many offices. He was second highest ranking student, scholastically, in his high school class.

* * *

R. E. JONES, state 4-H agent, said that Mr. Cuthbertson won many awards in 4-H work and was a delegate in 1949 to the Regional 4-H Club Camp at Nashville, Tenn. He hopes to become a county agent after completing service in the Armed Forces.

W. E. Reed, dean of the A. and T. School of Agriculture, and F. D. Bluford, president of the college, had high praise for the 4-H'er. Mr. Reed said, "Cuthbertson has the highest qualifications among our present student body for this particular program . . ."

Mr. Bluford said "Cuthbertson seems to be a young man of character, initiative and ability who has had considerable experience in 4-H Club work; he has done exceptionally well in everything he has attempted . . ."

Mr. Cuthbertson was selected to go to England and Wales in response to their request for two Negro IFYE's. Schmidt said the first Negro to participate in the program, from Mississippi, made an excellent record last year.

State 4-H Holds Meeting At Tuskegee

The Montgomery County 4-H Girls and boys attending the state Short Course and Encampment held at Tuskegee this week are Charlena Owen and Thereasa Colvin of Guy's community; Ella White, Legrand; Zelma Mathews, Tankersley; Cola Mae Perkin-McClain; and Anna J. Ross of the Phillip community.

Charlena Owen, received her three years certificate last year for having attended the short course for three consecutive years. This year, Therasa Colvin will receive her certificate. This is Ella White's second year. Cola Mae Perkins, Zelma Mathews and Anna J. Ross are attending for their first year.

Anna J. Ross is modeling a play suit at the fashion show Thursday night, while Ella White is modeling a short evening dress. Charlena is participating in the talent program.

These girls are enrolled in poultry projects, clothing, foods and home improvement back in their local clubs.

Boys representing Montgomery 4-H Clubs are Melvin Flowers, Sprague; Odessa Patterson Jr., Ramer; Wilbert Turnipseed, Cecil; Elisha McGrew, Big Zion; David Winston, Madison Park; and Fred Hall Jr., Mt. Meigs.

Melvin Flowers will receive a three year certificate during the session for a continuous three year attendance.

These 4-H Club members are under the supervision of Miss A. M. Boynton, home demonstration agent and J. T. Alexander, county agent of Montgomery county.

Thirty-seven counties with 12 boys and girls each are in attendance at this statewide meeting. Many of the agents are assisting the district and state workers with the daily activities.

Eisenhower Breaks Barriers For Negro 4-H Clubbers' Visits

WASHINGTON (ANP)—In the future Negro 4-H Club boys and girls will be able to come to Washington for their annual encampment and round-up just like the white 4-H clubbers throughout the country do.

The first such encampment is expected to take place in August next year. It will replace the regional camp to which colored youth have been confined and which has met at various places in the South, usually at one of the Negro Land Grant colleges. It took the White House to bring the change about.

Negro boys and girls will not be able to attend the national round-up which is held in Washington each year and participated in by white 4-H Club boys and girls from every state, Alaska and Hawaii. The colored round-up will be separate but the boys and girls will have the opportunity of visiting the many historical places in Washington. They will be taken to the great experimental farms at Beltsville, Md. They will go through much of the same citizenship training experience which white boys and girls have enjoyed for years.

Last year Negro newspapers printing an ANP story, revealed that ever since the round-ups in Washington began, southern state extension directors had refused to agree to colored girls and boys attending or even gathering in Washington at any time under state and federal auspices.

A startled reader saw the story and wrote Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton of Ohio, inquiring if it could possibly be true that in a free country such as the U. S., there were differences made between youthful citizens on the basis of race.

Rep. Bolton did not know but made inquiries at the U. S. Extension service. The national office is rather weak in the area of race relations. They always take refuge in the fact that they are a "cooperative agency and that their relationship is of such a nature that they cannot dictate to the states."

Rep. Bolton went straight to the White House with her inquiry and wheels began to move. There are reasons to believe President Eisenhower niterested himself in the matter.

When southern state directors had their annual meeting to discuss southern problems at the University of Georgia, state extension headquarters some months ago, the decision was reached to open the bars a trifle. For the first time southern directors agreed that colored boys and girls might hold their regional outside the South.

National leader John W. Mitchell, who had been summoned to be present at the time of the meeting, was called in and advised of the decision. The new procedure will not take effect until 1955 when the colored boys and girls will hold their round-up in Washington.

This is a long way from parity but observers in the department of agriculture have commented that it is at least a first step in the right direction.

Negro 4-H Winners Named

Constitution State News Service

DUBLIN, Dec. 9—Winners of the fourth annual Negro 4-H Club Congress, held here in Dublin at the state camp this week, were announced Thursday.

They are Claudie McGee, winner in the lamp making project; Ruby Reese, tops in the health contest, and Earline Hayes, in achievement, all from Hancock County.

Other winners are Charlie Howard, of Bibb, lamp making; Eugene Bacon, of Toombs, forestry; Shirley Lambert, of Effingham, gardening; Vernie J. Martin, of Liberty, farm and home safety; John Turnipseed, of Spandling, poultry; Cleo Lemons, of McIntosh, clothing; Louise Glouster, of Thomas, dress revue; Doris Cooper, of Sumter, dairy foods, and Norman Higdon, of Grady, dairy achievement.

Still others include Luetell Garrison, of Bryan, frozen foods; Adel Capers, of McIntosh, home improvement; Hazel Solomon, of Houston, canning; Idella Robinson, of Emanuel, food preparation; Ernest Tyler, of Decatur, achievement; Jane E. Heard, of Decatur, and Quanida Wilcox, of Appling, leadership; Horace Blue, of Laurens, field crops; Willie Brown, of Lowndes, meat animal; Roger Cooper, of Laurens, soil and water; Willie R. Gray, of Tift, tractor maintenance, and Hattie B. Howard, of Dodge, bread making.

Give $1,300 In Prizes To Ga. 4-H Youngsters

DUBLIN, Ga. — Four-H Clubs and 4-H members received nearly $1,300 Friday, Dec. 10, when an awards program climaxed the fourth annual 4-H congress at the 4-H center here.

Alexander Hurse, state 4-H club agent, said $500 went to 15 clubs named state winners in the 1954 community improvement program. The top club got $100, and the other 14 received awards ranging from $90 to $12.

The rest of the prize money was awarded to individual club members who won state honors in 20 farming and homemaking projects. Other awards included $250 in savings bonds, scholarships to the Congress, and medals of honor. Eighty-six boys and girls began competing Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Congress.

Approximately 300 youngsters, county and home demonstration agents, and local 4-H leaders were on hand Friday to hear R. J. Richardson, state 4-H club leader for the Agricultural Extension Service, University of Georgia, speak at the awards program.

More than 20 individuals and business organizations including the Chicago Defender who sponsor Negro 4-H activities attended the Congress and saw the 4-H members end a year of hard work in their projects.

20 PROJECTS

The 4-H delegates earned the right to attend the Congress by surviving competition at district eliminations and short courses here this summer. State congress is the next step up the 4-H ladder otward recognition as a state 4-H Club champion.

In most of the 20 projects in which there was competition here, the boys and girls competed for honors by presenting their records to be judged, giving educational demonstrations, giving reports, or making speeches.

Hurse, in charge of the congress program, was assisted by five other members of the extension service administrative staff. They are: P. H. Stone, state agent; Miss Camilla Weems, assistant state agent; Augustus Hill, assistant state club agent; Albert S. Bacon, assistant supervisor, and Mrs. Doris T. Owes, assistant state agent. County and home demonstration agents in counties represented by the 4-H contestants also were on hand to help with the program.

The list of boys and girls who attended the congress to compete for state titles in the 20 projects follows:

Delegates and their counties are: Earline Hayes, Hancock, and Earnest Tyler, Decatur; Dorothy Campbell, McIntosh; Claudia McGee, Hancock; Ruthie Mae Moore, Jenkins; Sarah Pearl Gooch, Dodge; Annie Owens, Lowndes; Doris Thomas, Mitchell; Roosevelt Stokes, Emanuel; Charles Howard, Bibb; Leroy Brown, Chatam; Barney Carlton, Baldwin; Ulysses Banks, Laurens, and Charles Henderson, Butts.

Gussie Daniels, Lowndes, and Eugene Bacon, Toombs; Shirley Lambert, Effingham; Pauline Scruggs, Lowndes; Faybelle Prince, Sumter; Dessa Ree Combs, Meriwether, and Eddie C. Waye, Jenkins.

Yvonne Bunch, Bryan; Sallie Reed, Lowndes; Ruby Reese, Hancock; Zelma Matthews, Meriwether; John L. Gibbs, Appling, and Elbert Lane, Jenkins.

Jane E. Heard, Decatur; Shirley Anderson, Meriwether; Quanida Wilcox, Appling; Cherry Johnson, Dougherty, and Lonnie Mercer, Sumter.

Catherine Pyles, Glynn; Inell Miller, Decatur; Juanita Harris, Sumter; Constance Ellis, Meriwether; Emmett Ashley, Twiggs; John Turnipseed, Spalding, and McKinley Williams, Jenkins.

Vernie J. Martin, Liberty; Johnnie M. Ellison, Lowndes; Adison Hayes, Appling; Joel Newsome, Sumter, Wesley Moore, Jenkns; Doris Cooper, Sumter; Norman Higdon, Grady, and Walter Passmore, Emanuel.

Annette Jackson, Lowndes; Clara Brown, Sumter, Janice Cooper, Laurens; Shirley Roberts, Liberty; Esterene Sanders, Decatur; Hazel Solomon, Houston, and Edith Banks, DeKalb, in canning; Cleo Lemons, McIntosh; Lucy Howard, Decatur, and Retha M. Hall, Laurens.

Meredith Blakely, Lowndes; Idella Robinson, Emanuel; Thelma Champion, Sumter, Adel Capers, McIntosh; Minnie Owens, Lowndes, and Earline Davis, Laurens, in home improvement; Nehemiah Haire, Decatur; Horace Blue, Laurens, and Jestine Culbreth, Emanuel.

Mamie Saunders, Lowndes; Louise Glouster, Thomas; Eloise Smith, Bryan; Julia Smith, Mitchell; Rosa Telfair, Emanuel; Daisy Roberts, Sumter; Eugene Connor Thomas; Roger Cooper, Laurens, and Samuel Williams, Burke.

Alfonso Cross, Emanuel; Willie Brown, Lowndes; Hershel Boston, Laurens, Bobby Outlaw, Burke; Lee Ray Mincey, Toombs; Willie R. Gray, Tift; Amos Breedlove, Decatur; Elijah Wright, Dougherty; John Tillman, Laurens; Charlie R. Riddle, Washington, and Joe Louis Swanson, Meriwether.

NEGRO 4-H CAMP PLANS REVEALED

(The Times-Picayune Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, April 13—Plans for the Aug. 9-16 regional 4-H camp for Negro boys and girls were announced by the department of agriculture Tuesday. The encampment will be at Jackson college, Jackson, Miss.

A delegation of 136 club members and 34 adult 4-H leaders from the 17 states in the Southern region is expected to take part in the encampment. These will represent the nation's 340,000 Negro 4-H'ers. Selection of delegates will be on the basis of achievements in leadership and community service, and on the number of farming and homemaking projects completed.

Dr. John W. Mitchell, national leader of Negro extension work, who will direct the camp, said that among the major features of the event will be addresses by nationally-known leaders, tours of some of the interesting places in Mississippi, recreational activities, and a network broadcast of camp high lights.

Dr. Mitchell will be assisted in the conduct of the camp by officials of the Mississippi extension service. Among these will be W. E. Ammons, state leader of Negro agricultural work; Daisy Lewis, district home agent; and the Negro 4-H staff, G. C. Cypress, T. M. Moman Jr., and Alberta Dishmon. Dean Clay Lyle of Mississippi State college, and president Jacob Reddix of Jackson college are serving as hosts.

States expected to send delegates to the encampment are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The young cattle farmers who exhibited winning calves in the county stock shows this Spring will come to Birmingham for special recognition and receive $100 checks.

Alabama agricultural leaders and leading Birmingham business men will be on hand to pay honor to the youngsters.

Representatives from the sponsoring organizations, The Birmingham News, Post-Herald, WAPI, WAFM and WABT, will greet the young cattle farmers, their parents and advisers.

Vincent Townsend, executive news editor of The Birmingham News, will give the welcoming address. Bob Hunter, secretary-treasurer of The Birmingham News, will present The Birmingham News, Post-Herald $100 calf awards to each county winner.

The Birmingham News, Post-Herald, WAPI, WAFM, and WABT present the annual barbecue each year at Kiddieland Park on the State Fairgrounds.

Outstanding talent from 4-H Clubs and FFA chapters will provide entertainment. Cal Douglas, WAPI-WABT, will be master of ceremonies. The program will be recorded and broadcast at 5:30 p.m. over WAPI, Saturday.

A special feature of the ceremony, M. B. Penn, chairman of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Commission, will award trophies to Morris Dean Patterson and Spruell Grissom, the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion winners of the Birmingham Stock Show, respectively.

Encampment Will Be On Equal Basis

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The first such encampment is expected to take place in August next year. It will replace the regional camp to which colored youth have been confined and which has met at various places in the South, usually at one of the Negro Land Grant colleges. It took the White House to bring the change about.

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OUTSIDE SOUTH

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Kentucky State College Prexy And 3 Others To Get 4-H Awards

FRANKFORT, Ky. —Dr. R. B. Atwood, president of Kentucky State College, Frankfort, Ky., and three career workers in agriculture and rural improvement will receive 4-H awards at the Regional Camp, August 9-16, for outstanding service to the youth organization, Dr. John W. Mitchell, national leader of Extension Service and director of the encampment, announced this week.

Those to be honored in addition to Dr. Atwood are: Sherman Briscoe, information specialist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture; and two retired 4-H leaders of Mississippi, Mrs. Virlie M. Lindsey, first Negro girls' club agent of the State; and Mrs. Beatrice Childress, second 4-H club agent.

These four will receive plaques, symbol of the highest 4-H honor, on August 15 at Jackson College, Jackson, Miss., where the encampment is to be held. Presentation will be made by four club delegates representing the Nation's 342,000 Negro boys and girls. The four Hs stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

Dr. Atwood, an agriculturist, has been president of the Kentucky agricultural and mechanical college for Negroes for a quarter of a century, and has been closely associated with rural improvement programs for youths and adults.

Mr. Briscoe has served as an information official for four of the six previous encampments. Also through his work in the Department of Agriculture, he has helped to publicize the achievements of 4-H boys and girls.

Both Mrs. Lindsey and Mrs. Childress have made outstanding contributions to the development of the 4-H club work in Mississippi. Under their leadership, enrollment of rural girls in club work rose to 30,000. Today, there are 32,390 Negro club girls in Mississippi, largest number of any State.

40 West Va. 4-H'ers cited

INSTITUTE, W. Va.—A list of outstanding colored 4-H Club members for 1954 was announced today by L. A. Toney, State Leader of Colored Extention work in West Virginia.

The selection of outstanding 4-H'ers in twenty counties were made by extension and 4-H leaders on the basis of achievements in leadership and community service, numbers of farm and home projects satisfactorily completed, self-reliance, initiative, cooperation, loyalty and honesty.

The following were selected from their respective counties:

Barbour—Trent Norris, Genevieve Newman; Berkley — Paul Williams, Dorothy Green; Boone—Manifred Smoot, Jacqueline Smoot; Cabell—Sumler Davis, Mary A. Taylor; Fayette—Rudolph Shelton, Fannie Carol Ethridge;

Greenbrier — Joe Louis Jackson, Constance Spotts; Harrison —Marshall Forte, Joy Green; Jefferson—Edward Kirk Baylor, Anna Washington, Kanawha Carl Watson Jr., Patricia Ann Jones; Marion—Charles Edward Evans, Theresa Cooper;

Mercer—Dana Adolphus Froe, Edna Vernelle Anderson; Mc Dowell—Joe Fitts, Mary Ann Young, Jarnice Tucker. Monongahlia—Richard Peterson, Margaret McGee; Monroe — Lloyd Haynes, Virginia Newsome; Morgan — Raymond Largent, Ruby Gale;

Pocahontas—Eugene Stewart, Mary Frances Foy, Lorenzo Sally Faye Stewart; Preston— Green, Patricia Ann Jones, Mary Joseph Douglas Paige; Raleigh Ann Young, Joe Fitts, Fannie —Lorenzo Green, Mary Frances Carol Ethridge, Randolph Shel- Foy; Summers — James ton, and Manifred Smoot were Grooms, selected to attend the Regional lor—Benny Garrett, Wanda Tay- 4-H Camp at Jackson, Miss. lor.

For special recognition, awards—

4-H cattle farmers coming

Saturday will be a big day for the 19 4-H Club and FFA members who won the annual $100 Birmingham News, Post-Herald Calf Awards.

NEGRO 4-H CLUB WINNERS FETED

Times Picayune
Annual Roundup at Jackson Monday, Tuesday
New Orleans, La.

(Special to The Times-Picayune)

JACKSON, Miss., Nov. 21—State and district winners for 1954 in Negro 4-H Club work in Mississippi will be honored here Monday and Tuesday at the 10th annual state 4-H Club Round-Up for Negro boys and girls, conducted by the agricultural extension service and sponsored by the agricultural committee of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce.

About 170 champions in over 50 projects will be recognized Monday night at a program at Jim Hill High school. Awards include $50 bonds, watches and achievement medals. These awards were made available both by Mississippi sponsors and through the national committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Chicago.

Negro extension agents and adult leaders will accompany the boys and girls to Rund-Up.

Dr. Clay Lyle, extension director, will speak at the recognition program. Also present will be C. I. Smith, state 4-H Club leader, and members of the Round-Up committee and of the Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee.

The winners were announced by G. C. Cypress, Negro boy's 4-H Club agent; Alberta Dishmon, Negro girls' 4-H Club agent; and Thomas M. Moman Jr., assistant Negro boys' 4-H Club agent, all of Jackson.

State Negro 4-H winners and their awards, where given, follow by projects:

Boys' Achievement—John H. Manning, Pike county.

Girls' Achievement—Velivian Bell, Marshall county.

Boys' Junior Leadership—Dennis Lee Jackson, Clarke county.

Girls' Junior Leadership—Julia Whitfield, Newton county.

Adult Leaders—Kate E. Jones, Marshall county, and Artis Johnson, Pike county.

Swine—Usavon Taylor, Tallahatchie county.

Beef Cattle—T. R. Taylor, Washington county.

Meat Animal — Rudolph Pendleton, Washington county.

Dairying—George Larry Spraggins, Lee county.

Poultry—Flowers Andrews Jr., Pike county.

Potatoes—Edgar Lee, Hinds county.

Corn—Royce E. Bullock, Lincoln county.

Cotton — Percy Jenkins, Washington county.

Field Crops—James Trivillion, Lincoln county.

Soil and Water Conservation—Robert Lee Hawthorne, Jeff Davis county.

Health Improvement—Joe H. Gaines, Jones county.

Tractor Maintenance — Arthur Davis Hayes, Sunflower county.

Farm and Home Safety—Seth Husband, Jones county.

Farm and Home Electric—Foster Haywood, Bolivar county.

Forestry—J. C. Leggett, Lincoln county.

Clothing—Doris Hayes, Sunflower county.

Poultry—Fannie Taylor, Tallahatchie county.

Health—Minnie Varnado, Pike county.

Frozen Foods—Larthy Ree Rogers, Lee county.

Home Improvement—Norma Lee Bryant, Pike county.

Garden—Addie B. Dockery, Marshal county.

Food Preparation—Beatrice Rich, Coahoma county.

Food Preservation—Dorothy Mitchell, Washington county.

4-H Club Parley At Little Rock

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—A 1954 state champion boy and girl in leadership and achievement was honored last week-end when more than one hundred 4-H Club delegates and leaders met for the achievement dinner during the fourth annual Negro 4-H Club Congress.

Pittsburg Pa.

The two-day affair was held on the campus of Philander Smith College. State champ in leadership are Joe Earl Miller, 16, and Mea Coates King, 16. The achievement winners are Lloyd White, 17, and Aryanna Brayboy, 17.

In addition to receiving a pen and pencil set and an award certificate, the state achievement and leadership winners will receive an expense-paid trip to the regional 4H Club camp.

Miss Edna Douglass, instructor at Dunbar High School and a member of the AM and N. College Board, was the speaker at the banquet. Charlene Shaw from St. Francis County presided during the banquet program.

4H Citizenship Day To Cite Need For Negro Voting

Jackson, Miss.

Citizenship Day of the National 4-H Club will be observed locally Jackson College Auditorium, Wednesday at 10 a.m., when good citizenship 4-F club members will be recognized.

Sat. 11-20-54

Plans include a grand formal processional of 4-H Club members who have just reached voting age; ceremonial pledges and the presentation of certificates and awards to members who contributed outstandingly in their respective fields.

P. 2

The observance is primarily aimed at making 4-H Club members aware of their political obligations and to inspire zeal and enthusiasm among the boys and girls for improving their country.

NEGRO 4-H LEADERS TO RECEIVE AWARDS

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.

Achievement Event To Be In Little Rock Tonight

Thurs. 11-18-54

Special to The Commercial Appeal

LITTLE ROCK, Nov. 17. — A 1954 state champion boy and girl in both leadership and achievement will be honored Thursday night when more than 100 Negro 4-H Club delegates and leaders gather for the achievement banquet during the fourth annual Negro 4-H Club Congress.

The annual two-day affair is to be held on the campus of Philander Smith College in Little Rock and will end at noon Friday. Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. Thursday.

State champions in leadership are Joe Earl Miller, 16, of the Tucker 4-H Club in Jefferson County, Mae Coates King, 16, of the Aubrey 4-H Club in Lee County.

In addition to receiving a pen and pencil set and an award certificate, the state achievement and leadership winners will receive an expense paid trip to the regional 4-H camp. Site of this activity for 1955 has not yet been announced.

Negro 4-H Congress

Seven Extension Service specialists have been named judges for the fourth annual Negro 4-H Club Congress which began at the 4-H Camp at Dublin Thursday. They are H. W. Bennett, Cecil Blackwell, Paul A. Crawford Jr., Miss Willie Vie Dowdy, C. Dorsey Dyer, Miss Mary Jo Ridley and Miss Sybil Smith . . . A record-breaking crowd of more than 1,000 persons attended the Kilpatrick Baptist Assn. Training Union rally night at the Thomson High School auditorium this week . . . Boyce L. Dyer has been elected president of the North Broad River Watershed recently organized in the Hayneville area to create interest and extend the Broad River Pilot Watershed. . . . Valdosta Wednesday was declared Class A first-place winner in the debate and one-act play competition of the annual Speech and Drama Festival in Athens.

Give $1300 In Prizes To Ga. 4-H Youngsters

Augusta, Ga. Chronicle
Sept. 1, 3rd Sec. 8th 12-18-54
p. 28

DUBLIN, Ga. — Four-H Clubs and 4-H members received nearly $1,300 Friday, Dec. 10, when an awards program climaxed the fourth annual 4-H congress at the 4-H center here.

Alexander Hurse, state 4-H club agent, said $500 went to 15 clubs named state winners in the 1954 community improvement program The top club got $100, and the other 14 received awards ranging from $90 to $12.

The rest of the prize money was awarded to individual club members who won state honors in 20 farming and homemaking projects. Other awards included $250 in savings bonds, scholarships to the Congress, and medals of honor. Eighty-six boys and girls began competing Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Congress.

Approximately 300 youngsters, and home demonstration and local 4-H leaders were Friday to hear R. J. Rich, state 4-H club leader for the Agricultural Extension Service, University of Georgia, speak at the awards program.

More than 20 individuals and business organizations including the Chicago Defender who sponsor Negro 4-H activities at the Congress and saw the members end a year of hard work in their projects.

1b 1954

4 H PLAQUE
MR. JOHN W. MITCHELL, (National Extension Leader)

AN AWARD FROM 50,000—John W. Mitchell, left, national extension leader of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who sees a good outlook for Negro farmers in 1954, receives a 4-H plaque recently in Jackson, Miss. The plaque was awarded by Mississippi's 50,000 colored 4-H Club boys and girls. State 4-H Agent G. C. Cypress is making the presentation.

REA Estimates 92.3 Percent of U. S. Farms Electrified

WASHINGTON, D. C. — About 92.3 percent of the Nation's 5,382,124 farms had electric service as of June 30, 1954, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced. This compares with 90.8 percent electrified on June 30, 1953, and 77.2 per cent electrified at the time of the 1950 Census.

The new survey by the Rural Electrification Administration shows that there were 416,172 unelectrified farms on June 30, 1954, as compared with 493,674 a year earlier. On the basis of the total number of farms shown in the 1950 census, this indicates that 4,965,962 farms were receiving central station electric service as of June 30, an increase of more than 77,000 during the previous year.

Under the Rural Electrification Act, REA is required to estimate the number of unelectrified farms in each State on June 30 of each year. This provides a basis for allotting electrification loan funds among the States. Because of the high percentage of farm electrification, REA made a special effort this year to pinpoint the farms remaining without service. The customary unelectrified farm survey was broadened, and special studies were utilized in certain areas.

This new information resulted in substantial increases over a year ago in the estimated numbers of unelectrified farms in Indiana, Iowa and Michigan, with smaller increases for Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island.

The number of electrified farms rose by more than 5,000 during the fiscal year in these states: Kentucky, increase of 9,349 farms; Tennessee, 8,448 gain; North Carolina, 8,230 gain; Mississippi, 7,350 gain; Georgia, 5,463 gain, and Missouri, increase of 5,240 electrified farms.

South Dakota again showed the biggest gain in its percent of farms electrified - 5.2 - bringing its percentage to 92.7. Other leading state increases were Kentucky, 4.3 percentage points; Colorado and Tennessee, 3.7 points, and Florida 3.6 points.

Agriculture Department Lists Loss Of $419,477,000 on Farm Support

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The Agriculture Department reported Thursday that its losses on farm price supppt operations reached a record of $419,477,000 for the fiscal year ended last June 30.

The previous high was $345,000,000 during the 1951 fiscal year. Losses for the year ended June 30, 1953, were $61,146,000.

The losses reflected sales of government owned surplus commodities at prices below those the department paid farmers for them under price support guarantees, plus storage costs.

The department also estimated its potential loss on commodities held on June 30 at $1,037,000,000. This estimate was based on market prices prevailing at that time and possible outlets.

On June 30, the department's investment in commodities stored under price supports totaled $6,005,511,000, compared with $3,476,330,000 a year earlier.

The investment is expected to increase sharply in the month ahead as portions of this year's crops are stored under price support loans and the government buys more dairy products under price guarantees.

A considerable portion of the loss came on surplus dairy products and wheat. Wheat and some other grains were sold abroad at prices below those the government paid for them. Likewise, large amounts of surplus dried milk were sold for livestock feed at sharply lower prices.

The June 30 investment included $2,337,289,000 in loans made to farmers on such crops as cotton, corn, tobacco, wheat and other grains, and $3,668,222,000 in commodities owned outright by the department.

Commodities owned by the department included wheat, corn, butter, cheese, cottonseed oil, wool, dried milk, cotton and soybeans.

Benson Names Advisory Body On Farm Buildings

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced today the appointment of an 11-member committee to advise the U. S. Department of Agriculture on its research efforts to provide better homes, buildings, machinery and equipment for farm families. It will serve for one meeting, March 7-9, 1955.

Members of the research advisory group were chosen from agricultural and industrial leaders conversant with the diverse problems involved in the design and performance of farm and home machinery, equipment, and buildings. They include representatives of farmers, farm women, professional service agencies in the field of home planning and management, and industrial producers of farm machinery, building materials, electrical equipment, and on-the-farm processing machinery.

This Farm and Home Equipment and Structures Research Advisory Committee has been established under authority of Title II of the Research and Makerting Act of 1946. It is the second research advisory group recently appointed by Secretary Benson. Establishment of a similar committee to advise the USDA on food distribution research and marketing work was announced on October 4.

Members of the committee on farm and home equipment and structures, to serve for one meeting, in Washington, D. C., on March 7-9, 1955, are:

Dale Erlewine, wheat farmer, Grant, Nebraska

H. Rogers Hamilton, fruit grower, Okanogan, Wash.

Walter D. Hemker, Westinghouse Electric Corp, East Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mrs. Elizabeth Sweeney Herbert, McCall's Magazine, New York, N. Y.

Berryman R. Hurt, dairy and hog farmer, Dunlap, Ill.

William G. Kaiser, agriculture engineer, Chicago, Ill.

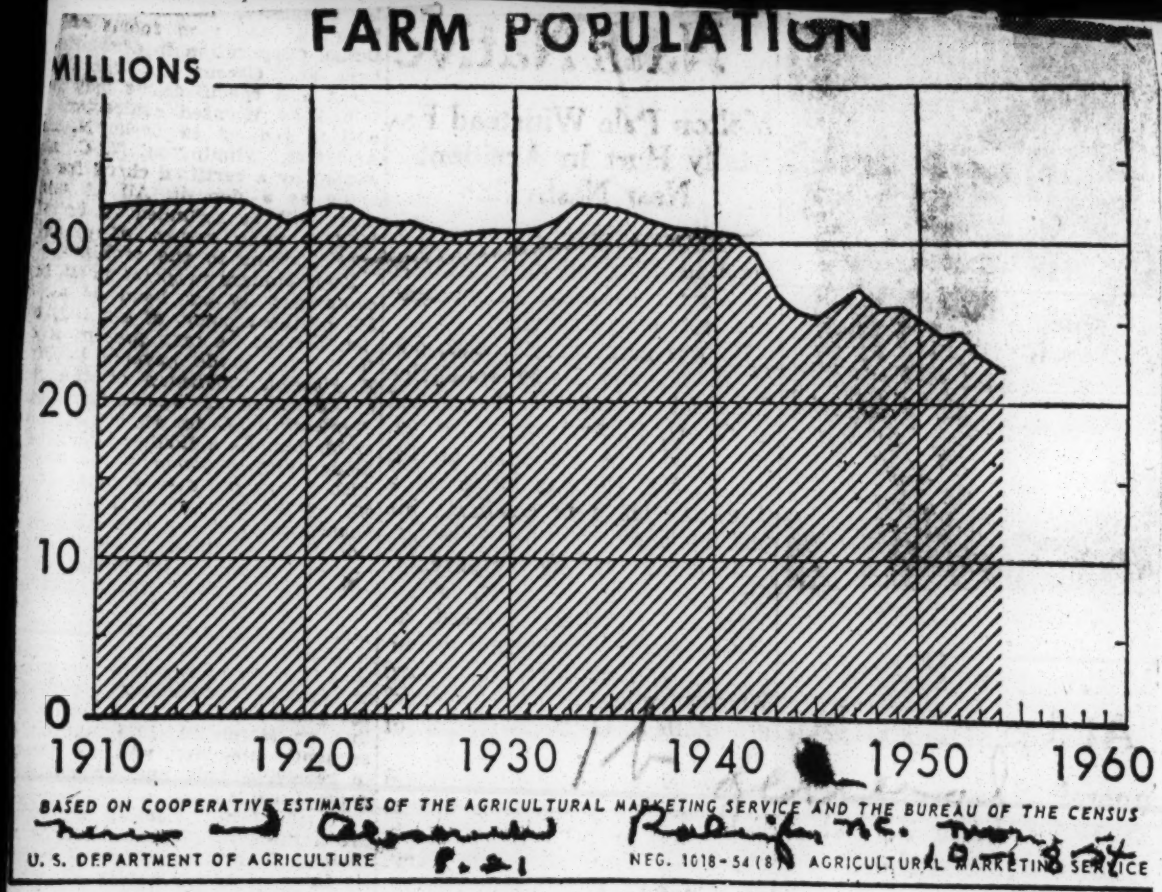
Stanley M. Madill, John Deere Co., Waterloo, Ia.

Mrs. Evelyn Bergstrand Owens, farmer's wife, Dousman, Wis.

J. C. Portis, cotton farmer, Pepanto, Ark.

F. Earl Price, Oregon State College, Corvapli,Osre.1 y- Rfj.. fE lege, Corvallis, Ore.

A. L. Vandergriff Lummus Cotton Gin Co., Columbus, Ga.



DOWN IT GOES!—This chart shows how the farm population of the United States has been dropping since 1933, to hit a low of only 21.9 million by this year. Percentage-wise the drop is even more startling, with farm people now making up only 13½ per cent of the total population.

SEVERITY OF DROUTH IS STILL INCREASING

Survey Reports Only Relief In Fringe Areas

SOUTHEAST HARDEST HIT

By The United Press

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—The Geological Survey said Friday the month-old drouth in the Southeast is continuing with "increased severity in some spots but with some relief around the edges."

Momentary relief was afforded in some states by hurricane Hazel last month, but in many places water runoffs and water levels are still well below average, the Survey said.

Compared To 1930s

A month ago, the Geological Survey reported that a drouth comparable to dust bowl conditions of the 1930s was building up in the Southern and Central States. Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay, in releasing the Survey's report last month, said "ground water levels were at or near record low levels throughout the Southern two-thirds of the United States."

The Survey reported Friday that "ground water levels generally were high in New England and the Great Lakes regions but remained well below average over most of the Southern two-thirds of the United States."

"Disastrous" floods in the Toronto and Chicago areas, and in the Pecos River Basin of New Mexico, and record-breaking floods in the Upper Ohio River Basin, and the Great Lakes states eased the water situation in those vicinities.

The Survey said low water conditions prevailed from New Jersey to Mississippi.

Receded Quickly

Hurricane Hazel caused many streams in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina to reach "fairly high stages" in October, but they "quickly receded to the same stages that existed before the storm."

The Survey said water levels in key wells declined.

Runoff of the Piedmont and mountain streams in the Georgia area improved with the coming of cool weather, "but all were well below normal," the Survey said.

Stream flow dropped in Florida, only minor relief was felt throughout Alabama, and the runoff for the Tombigbee River at Columbus, Miss., was the lowest on record.

Ground water levels also were below normal in Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma.

TOP NEGRO FARMERS TO GET PRIZES TODAY

17th Annual Live-At-Home Rally Will Be Held At Booker T. High

By WALTER DURHAM

Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

Thirty-nine Mid-South Negro farm families will harvest a green crop in Memphis today.

State and sweepstakes winners in The Commercial Appeal's 1954 Live-At-Home Competition, in which about 60,000 families participated, will reap $1,710 in cash awards they earned for making outstanding records in living at home, soil conservation, crop diversification and home improvement.

600 To Attend

The prizes will be presented at the 17th annual Live-At-Home Rally at Booker T. Washington High School, starting at 10 a.m. Around 600 county winners and their families, representatives of the Negro press and agricultural and educational leaders will attend.

Principal speaker will be Sherman Briscoe, information director for the United States Department of Agriculture. He will be introduced by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High.

Guests will be welcomed by Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, and W. H. Williamson, Tennessee state extension agent in charge of Negro work.

The all-day meeting will be called to order by Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent. John Gammon of Marion, Ark., president of the Farm Bureau and a former Live-At-Home grand sweepstakes champion, will preside.

$250 Sweepstakes Award

Hobson Vandiver, member of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee and manager of the Mid-South Cotton Growers Association, will present the $250 grand sweepstakes award to the best Live-At-Home family of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri or Tennessee. The $100 tenant sweepstakes prize will be given by Prof. R. J. Roddy, manager of the Colored Tri-State Fair, which offers the award.

State cash prizes, totaling $1,360, will be presented by Walter Durham, director of The Commercial Appeal's Plant To Prosper Bureau. He also will present trophies to the agricultural workers who produced the sweepstakes champions this year and to those who obtained the largest number of enrollees in the competition.

Others on the program include Bessie L. Walton, Tennessee assistant extension agent in charge of Home Demonstration Club work; T. R. Betton, Arkansas Negro district extension agent; W. E. Ammons, Mississippi state leader in Negro men's extension work, and Ella Stackhouse, Pemiscott County, Mo., Negro home demonstration agent.

Festivities will be climaxed with an old-fashioned Southern barbecue dinner.

Music will be provided by Imogene Hill, soloist, the Booker T. Washington High band, and choral groups from Melrose School and Ripley, Tenn., Negro High School.

Irrigation Seen as Cure for Droughts Over South

Possible Now Under Water Facilities Act

By WILBUR JENNINGS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26 (AP)—Large-scale irrigation, comparatively new to the South, will be welcomed with open arms in Dixie in the next few years, in the view of Southern members of Congress.

They see it as the salvation of drought-stricken farmers whose pastures and crops have been knocked out in recent years. Never, they say, has the need been so pointed up as this summer.

The water needed to combat droughts in the South might come in the form of supplemental irrigation—to be used in the years when there is a deficit of rain.

While right now there appears to be a clamor for some system of irrigation in the Southern states, after the dry summer, government officials say it could die down should there be an abundance of rain next summer.

Irrigation Increasing

But irrigation has increased steadily in the South in recent years. It is now practiced in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Florida, Oklahoma, Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Georgia and Mississippi.

In 1939 these states were irrigating 1,556,074 acres. By 1949 the figure had jumped to 5,861,778 acres.

Congress has extended the water facilities act to cover the whole nation. Previously it had been limited to 17 arid and semi-arid states of the West.

Under the extension of the water facilities act, which is administered by the Farmers' Home Administration, Congress provided 11½ million dollars for direct loans the first year and additional authority for 25 million of insured loans. Of the 11½ million, five million was earmarked for new areas.

Other Services Provided

The act also provides for loans for soil conservation purposes such as sodding, terracing, gully control and seeding of pastures—which also would be beneficial to the South.

The loans will be available to individuals or groups, and the government will not take title to the irrigating systems, as it has done in the West.

Congress last session heard a lot about the need for irrigating practices in the South. Both Sens. J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark) and James O. Eastland (D-Miss) fought for extension of the water facilities act. Other Southerners also lent their voice.

Eastland in a Senate speech cited an irrigation unit for 20 acres which had cost $1,610.

Sprinkler System Favored

Largely, the South probably will use the sprinkler system—which can be turned off and on at will and perhaps moved from field to field as needed. But Eastland said the type should be left to government experts whose servies now will be available to the South.

In the arid West, Eastland said, open-ditch or gravity irrigation of leveled areas is the customary method. Such irrigation with lateral channels is also successful on level areas in the South, he said. But he added:

"An entirely different method is favored, however, for rolling country, namely, irrigation by means of portable aluminum sprinkling systems.

"These portable sprinkling systems are a clever device. Because they are portable, a small investment in pipe enables a farmer to irrigate a considerable area simply by moving the system. They do not interfere with crop rotation or contouring practices. They can be moved out of the way for cultivation or harvesting. They work equally well on flat or hilly areas."

Pretty Sight

Eastland said that next to a good heavy drought-breaking rain from heaven, there is no prettier sight to the eye of a farmer than one of these sprinkler systems in operation.

"To be able to turn on the rain at will seems too good to be true."

Many systems, he said, will irrigate from 5 to 10 acres at a time, but coverage may vary from a garden plot to a very large field.

Speaking of the water facilities act, Eastland said:

"It is amazing what the water facilities act accomplished in the areas where it was made applicable. It saved individual farmers from bankruptcy; it made thousands of them prosperous. It made farming in arid areas, which was previously impossible, a safe and profitable enterprise.

"Few areas of the earth have been so abundantely blessed as the southeastern part of the United States. Its soil is fertile; its growing season is long; its vegetation is luxuriant and crops of all kinds flourish.

"This area likewise has more bountiful rainfall than other portions of the United States—Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida having the heaviest rainfall found among the 48 states.

Drouth Not Uncommon

"Yet drought is not uncommon even here, and in recent years we have had some of the most prolonged droughts in our history. Even in years of ordinary rains our crops do not reach the fullest production of which the soil is capable, due to periods of drought. Yet flowing streams are everywhere in the lower Mississippi valley and the southeastern part of the United States.

"The extension of the water facilities act to humid areas does not contemplate the creation of great irrigation districts such as we find in the West.

"If we go into the field of irrigation, the future may disclose cases in which such districts will become desirable. If so, no doubt the state legislatures will provide laws for the creation of such districts and the full utilization of our rivers and water resources.

"The expanded water facilities act contemplates loans to individual farmers or to small associations of farmers to provide sufficient capital for the installation of irrigation equipment; for the drilling of wells and the purchase of pipe.

"These loans are to be repaid over a period of years, in some instances 20 years, at the interest rate of 3 per cent. The loans to cover the entire cost of the installations, including the drilling of wells for subsurface water, will be made to farmers or to associations of farmers by the Farmers' Home Administration.

"The loans will be repaid from the increased production which irrigation will bring about. Loans will be made to farmers of all sizes. In the 17 arid states there have been loans as small as $200 and as large as $50,000."

Eastland said that in his judgment the average loan in Mississippi and other Southern states would not be too large since the cost of obtaining water would not be excessive.

The act provides that associations of farmers may borrow up to $250,000 and repay the loan over a period of 40 years.

Benson Urged to Make Farm Life Pay Better

The American Federation of Labor believes that the first requirement in helping underemployed farmers is to make agricultural life and labor more profitable and attractive to them, AFL President George Meany wrote Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson.

Replying to a request by Benson for the AFL's views regarding the problems of underemployed rural people, Meany emphasized that farming in America has traditionally been considered as a pattern of small family-sized farms.

Encourage Farming

"We are certainly not ready to admit that our Nation no longer can provide the means to make such family-sized farming a profitable venture," wrote Meany.

The AFL president also underscored the Federation's belief that every opportunity should be given rural people to improve their living standards through farming operations.

Accompanying Meany's letter to Benson was a statement of the AFL's views which:

1—Attacked the entry of Mexican "wetback" labor into the southwestern U. S., as well as Mexicans who enter the country under contract. "These workers," the statement declared, "have prevented the development of an American standard of wages, working and living conditions in large-scale agriculture."

2—Urged that agricultural jobs be made attractive to U. S. citizens by putting farm labor under the Fair Labor Standards and National Labor Relations acts.

Strengthen Laws

3—Declared a "realistic and adequately financed" program for recruiting and placing agricultural workers is necessary.

4—Proposed that the immigration laws be strengthened by prohibiting the employment of illegal aliens both in agriculture and in industry.

5—Suggested that the Department of Agriculture should take measures to make certain that groups of farmers, seeking to improve their living standards through democratic organization, are not prohibited by another government agency—such as the Justice Department—from taking such necessary action.

6—Stated that the Agriculture Department has "a great responsibility" to save the 3½ million farms to which the President has referred as producing so little as to derive little benefit from farm price supports.

7—Backed a program for rehabilitating underemployed rural people.

8—Asked that the Extension Service "reorient" its program so that the land and human resources of the Nation's 3½ million farmers be better utilized.

Property Losses Average Million

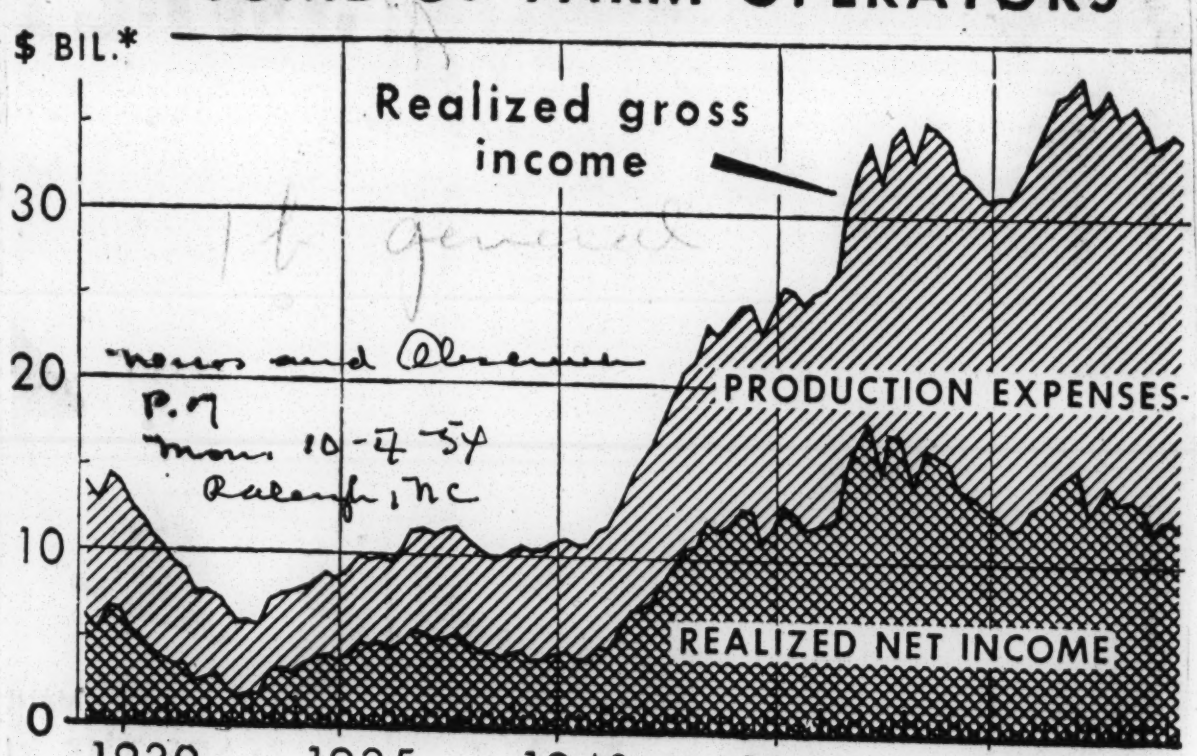
WASHINGTON— In an average year 3,500 persons lose their lives in farm-building fires, says a new U. S. Department of Agriculture publication. The value of livestock, crops, machinery and other property destroyed averages $100 million a year. The publication (Farmers' Bulletin 2070) states that much of this tragedy and material loss could be prevented by better construction and location of farm buildings. Fire resistant construction reduces chances of fire; slows spread of fires that do start. Proper spacing of buildings retards spread of fires.

New developments about the farmstead as well as up-to-date precautions in construction and equipment are reflected in the bulletin, "Fire-Resistant Construction on the Farm," which supersedes one first issued 25 years ago. In the intervening years there have been many changes which are taken into account by agricultural engineers Harry L. Garver and Edward G. Molander, who prepared the new publication.

Among the new factors the authors discuss or illustrate are: Farm water supply (electric lines for pumping power should not be attached to a building); direction of prevailing winds; radio and television aerials (lead-in conductors 6 feet away from lightning-rod system - do not attach antennas to chimney); and crop driers keep crop-drying air temperatures down to 140°F.). Electrical and fuel-burning equipment get more attention in the new bulletin than in 1929.

All the old factors of importance in construction against fire also are in the bulletin. Drawings bring out the correct construction of walls, floors, chimneys, flues, fireplaces and stairways. There are listed such risk reducers as; the storage of forage crops as silage instead of as hay; the use of a one-story barn, eliminating the hazard of a burning haymow above the animals; loose-housing system for dairy cattle where cows may leave in case of fire; open sheds, paved feedlots and windbreaks instead of a closed feeding barn; and the use of concrete, masonry, sheet metal, cement-asbestos and other fire-resistant material for buildings.

A single copy of the new bulletin (F. B. 2070) may be obtained free from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Washington 25, D. C.



FARM INCOME PICTURE—The trend of farm income, both gross and net, has been generally downward since the post-Korea peak in the fourth quarter of 1951. However, farm income in the first half of 1954 was slightly higher than in the second half of 1953. Note how production expenses have skyrocketed since 1940. This is a U. S. Department of Agriculture chart.

Farm Census to Chart Role in Valley Growth

Delaware Valley is supported by the most diversified farming area in the Nation, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce. This, the department pointed out, is important to the $10,000,000,000 industrial output and expanding market in this region.

The importance of agriculture and manufacturing will be emphasized today by the department's Bureau of Census when it undertakes a six-week poll among the 24,000 farmers in the 14-county sector encircling Philadelphia. The farm census here is a segment of a poll of 5,000,000 farmers in the United States.

414 ENUMERATORS ON JOB

Dr. John Joseph Stoudt, field census supervisor for the 23 Eastern Pennsylvania counties, said 118 questions relative to production and sale of crops, livestock, poultry and the economic well-being of the farmer, would be tabulated by 414 enumerators in the sector east and northeast of the Susquehanna River, except for Adams and York counties.

The eight counties in South Jersey and those in Delaware come under separate jurisdictions, Dr. Stoudt said, but as the Delaware Valley region they, too, contribute to the diversification of agriculture in the Philadelphia area.

PRODUCTS LISTED

This area produces tobacco and wheat, poultry and eggs, milk and butter, beef and potatoes, pickles and pork, peaches and cream, peas, beans, lettuce, corn, celery, spinach, berries, grapes and acres and acres of tomatoes for the tables and canneries.

"Chester county has become one of the principal beef centers in the East," Dr. Stoudt said. "The big King Ranch is producing a large portion of the meat consumed in the Philadelphia market."

Agricultural products of Eastern Pennsylvania, South Jersey, Delaware and Maryland are channeled into the terminal markets of Philadelphia and other metropolitan cities in Delaware Valley, Dr. Stoudt said.

Hits procedure in farm census

Charges Dixiecrats get job preference

COLUMBIA, S.C. — A charge that discrimination was practiced in the selection of some 650 farm census takers in South Carolina was made last week by a veteran political leader.

I. S. Leevy, publicity chairman of the S.C. Republican party and defeated Second Congressional District candidate, made public a protest letter he had filed with Richard M. Simpson, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

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MR. LEEVY charged that the census takers were being recruited from among Dixiecrats and "so - called Independents" through a Dixiecrat patronage chief instead of the legal Republican party.

"It appears," he said, "that the S.C. Republican party here is being penalized for welcoming qualified electors, regardless of race or color, into its membership."

1b 1954

GENERAL (LIVE-AT-HOME COMPETITION)

Hard-Working Mississippians Gain Live-At-Home Honor

Commercial Appeal

Spights, Former Sharecroppers, Win Sweepstakes Award For Labor, Planning, Wise Use Of Their Land—

550 Attend 17th Annual Rally

Memphis Sun.

By WALTER DURHAM

Director Plant Food Education Bureau

A former sharecropper couple who now own a productive debt-free 213-acre farm they put together little by little were chosen yesterday as grand sweepstakes champions in The Commercial Appeal's 1954 Live-At-Home Competition.

Victors over some 60,000 other Negro farm families of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee were David and Missouri Spight, 51 and 49, respectively, of Route 3, New Albany, Union County, Miss.

Parents of three children and rearing another, the Spights received the $250 grand sweepstakes prize given by the Memphis Chamber of Commerce at The Commercial Appeal's 17th annual Live-At-Home Rally at Booker T. Washington High School.

Dinner Set, Too

They also received a 35-piece dinner set given by this newspaper, the presentations being made by Walter Garver, manager of the agricultural division of the United States Chamber of Commerce, and Hobson Vandiver, member of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee and secretary-manager of the Mid-South Cotton Growers Association.

The awards for making the best Mid-South record in living at home, soil conservation, crop diversification and home improvement were in recognition of the winning couple's hard work, intelligent planning and wise use of their facilities and land.

Some 550 county winners in the contest, along with agricultural and educational leaders and representatives of the Negro press attended.

Tenant Champion

Defeating some 20,000 tenant farm families of the four states for the $100 tenant sweepstakes award were Robert Lee and Laura V. Davis, 43 and 39, respectively, of Route 1, Rossville, Fayette County, Tenn. Renters on a 60-acre cotton, corn and truck farm, the couple also received an electric coffee maker from The Commerial Appeal, presentations being made by Prof. R. J. Roddy, manager of the Colored Tri-State Fair.

The Spights were Mississippi state landowner champions in 1950, while the Davis family placed first in the Tennessee Tenant Division last year.

The Commercial Appeal's Sweepstakes Trophy for producing the grand sweepstakes champions was presented to Earnell B. Harris, Union County Negro home demonstration agent.

Awarded the Live-At-Home Enrollment Trophy for having the largest county registration in the competition this year was Ada B. Adams, Negro home demonstration agent of Rankin County, Miss.

Prizes Total $1,360

State cash prizes to landowners and tenants and to winners in the Farm Operator and Home Improvement divisions, totaling $1,360, were presented by Walter Durham, agricultural editor of The Commercial Appeal.

Principal speaker was Sherman Briscoe, information specialist for the United States Department of Agriculture. He was introduced by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High.

Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, delivered the welcome address and drew prolonged applause when he announced the Live-At-Home competition will be held again in 1955.

Others on the program included Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent; W. H. Williamson, Tennessee state extension agent in charge of Negro work; Bessie L. Walton, Tennessee assistant state agent in charge of home demonstration work; T. R. Betton, Arkansas Negro district extension agent; W. E. Ammons, Mississippi leader in Negro men's extension work, and Ella Stackhouse, Pemiscot County, Mo., Negro home demonstration agent. John Gammon of Marion, Ark., Farm Bureau president, presided.

Climaxing the day's festivities was a barbecue dinner served in the school cafeteria. Music was provided by Imogene Hill, vocalist, the Booker T. Washington High band and choral groups from the Ripley, Tenn., Negro High School and Melrose School.

Long Road To Success

David and Missouri Spight started their married life in 1938 as part-time sharecroppers. He was a day laborer in a shirt factory. She was a cook in a private home at 50 cents a day.

They bought their first 64 acres in 1941. Later they added to it in blocks of 5, 11, 25, 54 and 54 acres at a time to make their present farmstead of 213 acres.

Their income this year came from cotton, livestock, dairy and poultry products and truck crops. Their present livestock includes 20 dairy cattle, 20 beef cattle and 175 laying hens.

Davis, who is a tenant on the R. M. Johnson farm, has been with the same landowner since he started on his own 21 years ago. He is a good cotton farmer, and despite the drouth this year he produced 33 bales on 26 acres.

Davis and his landlord are firm believers in having their soil tested and in using the right fertilizers in the correct amounts. This has increased yields, as has the fact they always plant cover crops on all row-cropped land.

TOP NEGRO FARMERS HONORED TOMORROW

Commercial Appeal

Champions To Be Crowned At Live-At-Home Rally

Outstanding Negro farmers of four states will gather at Booker T. Washington High School at 10 tomorrow morning to be recognized and rewarded for a successful year of agricultural production and home improvement.

The Commercial Appeal, the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and the Colored Tri-State Fair will be hosts to some 550 farmers, agricultural and educational leaders of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee at the 17th annual Live-At-Home Rally.

Prizes totaling $1,710 will be presented to some 40 state and sweepstakes winners who have done the best jobs this year in living at home, soil conservation, crop diversification and home improvement.

On the day's agenda is an address by Sherman Briscoe, information specialist for the United States Department of Agriculture, and a musical program by the Booker T. Washington High band and choral groups from Melrose School and Ripley, Tenn., Negro High School. Vocal numbers will be offered by Imogene Hill.

Climaxing the all-day event will be a barbecue dinner served in the school cafeteria.

LIVE-AT-HOME CHAMPIONS — Missouri and David Spight (3 and 4) and their grandson, Curt Spight (5), were chosen grand sweepstakes champions in The Commercial Appeal's 1954 Live-At-Home Competition at a rally at Booker T. Washington High School yesterday. Owners of a 213-acre cotton and livestock farm near New Albany, Miss., they received a $250 check from Walter Garver (1), manager of the agricultural division of the United States Chamber of Commerce, and a 35-piece dinner set from Hobson Vandiver (2), members of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee.

TENANT WINNERS—Robert Lee and Laura V. Davis (left and center) of Route 1, Rossville, Tenn., defeated about 20,000 tenant farm families of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee to receive the $100 tenant sweepstakes award from Prof. J. R. Roddy, manager of the Colored Tri-State Fair, which gave the prize. The Davis family, which has been farming with the same landowner for 21 years, operate a 60-acre cotton, corn and truck farm in Fayette County. State first place winners in 1953, couple did excellent job this year in living at home, soil conservation and home improvement.

Negro Farmers Made Gains In Work, Says Farm Expert

WASHINGTON — "Although Negro farmers are losing ground in terms of numbers, they are gaining in terms of quality," said John W. Mitchell, national extension leader of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as he took a look this week to see how the Nation's 580,000 colored farmers fared in 1953.

"Striving toward quality farming and better living, I think, was the major trend among colored farmers this year," said Mr. Mitchell, "and the outlook is good for a continuation of these trends in 1954," he added.

"OF COURSE, we are losing ground in terms of numbers," he said, pointing out that over 120,000, or a fifth of the colored farmers of the South, moved to town between 1940 and 1950, compared with a 10 percent shift among white farmers of that region. And he said he thinks the movement from the farm to town is continuing at a high rate.

But he thinks the shift in the farm operator population is not disadvantageous, since many find good jobs in town and are able to raise their standard of living. Likewise, those who have remained on the land have improved the quality of their farming and raised their level of living.

* * *

THE NATIONAL leader said that increasingly he has observed that colored farmers are diversifying their cropping program, adding poultry, hogs, and cattle, and developing pastures and building watering and fishing ponds.

And he pointed out that these farmers are increasing their yields by taking better care of their land, using commercial fertilizer, selecting better seed and better breeds of livestock, and by protecting their crops and animals from insets and diseases.

* * *

TAKE 10-YEAR-OLD Solomon Sanders of Quincy, Fla., he said. The 4-H club boy took first place recently in the junior division of the Gadsden County Fair with a Duroc pig he bought from Florida A. and M. University and fattened into a prize winner. Solomon won out over both white and colored 4-H'ers.

Or Mr. Mitchell points to 42-year-old Theodore Jackson of St. Joseph, La., who is said to be the best poultry farmer in his county. He collects as many as 240 dozen eggs a week from his 650 white Leghorns.

* * *

LOOKING TO the future, the national leader sees increased opportunities for some of these farmers in 1954 when cotton acreage allotments will enable them to develop a diversified farming program.

Although reducing the cotton acreage, he says, may mean that some of the sharecroppers and tenants will no longer be needed on the farm, others may have more opportunity to get started on their own by raising livestock feed on acres taken out of cotton.

Next year should be a pretty good year for Negro farmers, Mr. Mitchell predicts.

Mitchell Says:

Farmers Gain in Quality

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Farmers drop in number but increase in efficiency

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Diversify Program

The national leader said that increasingly he has observed that colored farmers are diversifying their cropping program, adding poultry, hogs, and cattle, and developing pastures and building watering and fishing ponds.

And he pointed out that these farmers are increasing their yields by taking better care of their land, using commercial fertilizer, selecting better seed and better breeds of livestock, and by protecting their crops and animals from insects and diseases.

Colored farmers, he asserted, are increasing their efficiency and making up for their labor shortage by buying tractors. "It all adds up to higher quality farming which is nowhere more evident than at county fairs," Mr. Mitchell declared.

Youthful Example

Take ten-year - old Solomon Sanders of Quincy, Fla., he said. The 4-H club boy took first place recently in the junior division of the Gadsden county fair with a Duroc pig he bought from Florida A. and M. university and fattened into a prize winner.

'Ag' official says Southern farmers earn under $2,000

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — A U.S. Department of Agriculture official said here last week that 93 per cent of colored farmers in the South earn less than $2,000 a year.

Declaring Southern farmers have an economy geared to mules," the official, Howard Berteh, said about two-thirds of the South's farms still depend on mules.

Mr. Berteh also blamed inadequate land resources, insufficient capital, lack of managerial ability, improper organization and lack of motivation for the low income.

120,000 NEGRO FARMERS QUIT FARMS FOR CITY IN TEN YEARS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4 — (Special) — Over 120,000, or a fifth of the colored farmers of the South, moved "to town" between 1940 and 1950, compared with a 10 percent shift among white farmers of that region, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, surveying the situation of the 580,000 Negro farmers in the U. S. in 1950, noted last week.

Primary purpose of the shift of Negro farmers cityward has been to raise their standard of living; however, Dept. of Agriculture officials feel that those who have remained on the land have improved the quality of their farming and raised their level of living.

Increasingly, Negro farmers are diversifying cropping programs, adding poultry, hogs, and cattle, and developing pastures and building watering and fishing ponds, and are increasing their yields by taking better care of their land, using commercial fertilizer, selecting better seed and better breeds of livestock, and protecting crops and animals from insects and diseases.

Negro farmers are also increasing efficiency and making up for labor shortage by buying tractors.

Agriculture officials point to such efficiency as 10-year-old Solomon Sanders, of Quincy, Fla., 4-H Club boy who took first place recently in the junior division of the Gadsden County Fair with a Duroc pig he bought from Florida A. & M. University and fattened into a prize winner, winning out over both white and colored 4-H'ers;

Or to 42-year-old Theodore Jackson, of St. Joseph, La., who is said to be the best poultry farmer in his county, collecting as many as 240 dozen eggs a week from his 650 White Leghorns.

National leaders observe increased evidence of better living which results from quality farming, according to the Agriculture Dept. on a recent tour of North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee, better farm homes which had running water, electric refrigerators, and other modern conveniences, were noted in larger numbers.

However, not all Negro farmers are well. Some are failing for a variety of reasons, says the Agriculture Dept. The principal ones are (1) failure to adopt modern practices, (2) slowness in developing pastures and adding livestock, (3) planting poor varieties of corn and other crops, (4) taking chances and letting insects and diseases claim a sizeable share of their products, and (5) lack of adequate credit resources to expand their operations into a sound economic unit.

The Drought And The Farmer

The seriousness of the current drought that has almost ruined the crops in many sections of the southeast, recalls the fact that for a number of years the farmers have fed the nation at a loss. The farmer's job has always been a gamble. He pits his faith on providence. He invests heavily in live stock sometimes to see them die in wholesale fashion; he plants plots of land to see the crops flooded by high water. His crops have always been his heaviest liabilities. Here he expends large sums for the preparation, planting and cultivation of the staple. If he is fortunate enough to have good seasons for the growing of the crop, the boll weevil comes along to take his portion. Then comes the problem of gathering which finds him at odds with securing pickers, even at as much as four dollars per hundred.

If the corn crop does not have proper moisture when the tender ears begin to shoot, he only makes half a crop.

This year, in a trip through North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia in the late summer, it was seen that the crops had almost burned up. The corn appeared as if a fire had gone through it and the small undeveloped stalks hardly gave sign of any crop at all.

These are some of the conditions seen at random and a short story of the farmer and his struggles.

He is indeed an unsung patriot. When he loses his live-stock, his corn and cotton crops, the floods wash his land to the sea, and the bank closes him out, he is the strong soul that begins all over again the next year.

Any business in the commercial field would go broke many times if its proprietor tried this. He would be bankrupt and forgotten. Not so with the farmer. We have known them to stay on and starve for generations, holding on to the land and feeding the nation at a loss.

Great is the farmer. Some day an epic will be woven around him.

Drouth Loss In Some Crops Is Irreparable

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (U.P.)— The Agriculture Department reported today that the drouth eased somewhat during August but too late to prevent "irreparable damage" to some of the corn, soy bean and late hay crops.

Feed grain and pasture prospects improved slightly last month the department said, but the feed crop outlook for the entire country still was the worst in 18 years.

It reported "little or no relief from the drouth" in early September as supplies on animal feed stored for winter use already were being consumed in drouth areas. The dry period continued serious in the Southeast.

The department, in its monthly report, forecast a 2,972,641,000 bushel corn crop, up 149,000,000 from last month's report, chiefly because of more favorable growing conditions in the corn belt.

The Spring wheat outlook dropped from the previous prediction of 201,637,000 bushels, chiefly because of additional damage from stem rust and searing heat in the Dakotas.

Despite the drouth, the department estimated that this year's production of all crops will be the sixth largest on record. The total index improved nearly 1 per cent during August.

Pasture conditions on Sept. 1 were slightly better than a year ago. Otherwise, however, they were the worst since 1936.

Milk production during August totaled 10,494,000,000 pounds, close to the 10-year average. Commercial farmers marketed 4,545,000,000 eggs last month, a record.

Condition of the nation's pastures Sept. 1 was 64 per cent of normal compared with 63 per cent a year ago.

MORE AID EXPECTED FOR ARID MID-SOUTH

Increase In Areas, Program Predicted By Stennis

UNREAL PLAN IS CITED

From The Commercial Appeal Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. — More drouth-stricken areas in the Mid-South are expected to be designated for Federal relief measures Tuesday and a more liberal relief program may be announced.

Senator John C. Stennis (D., Miss.), Representative Arthur Winstead (D., Miss.) and other Mid-South congressmen made new inquiries Monday and continued to press for action.

Hopes For More

"I hope that an announcement will be made Tuesday and that a more liberal program, one made adequate to cope with the disastrous situation we are experiencing, will be announced," Senator Stennis said.

Senator Stennis has joined with Senators John L. McClellan (D., Ark.), J. William Fulbright (D., Ark.), James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) and others in describing the present relief program as "unrealistic."

The present program affords credit through a Government agency when it is unavailable from commercial sources and also provides feed for livestock at reduced prices.

With the prolonged drouth — now completing the third consecutive summer — causing increasing crop losses and economic distress in the Mid-South, congressmen from the area have urged a more liberal program.

Senator Stennis wired President Eisenhower last week urging the President to make a personal inspection of the area and to learn the facts for himself. Other Mid-Southerners joined in the suggestion.

Mid-South To Benefit

The forthcoming announcement by the Agriculture Department is expected to provide some measure of relief for Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee.

All three states have had requests pending for more than a month, all of them backed by the governors of the states. The only action has been the designation of 37 counties in Arkansas as drouth disaster areas.

Pending requests would include the remainder of Arkansas in the designation and also the stricken areas in Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.

Representative Winstead, who has made numerous pleas to the Agriculture Department and the White House, came back to Washington Monday to renew his urgings.

1b 1954

GEORGIA

Georgia Gets New Home Demonstration Agents

BY CAMILLA WEEMS
Asst. State Agent Negro Work

SAVANNAH, Ga. —Mrs. Doris [illegible] demonstration agent in Liberty County, has recently been appointed to work on the [illegible] level as assistant state agent [illegible] work and will work out of the Savannah office, announces Camilla Weems, assistant state agent for Negro work. Mrs. [illegible] will assist with the work for the colored women and girls in Georgia. She is a native of McIntosh County and has lived in New York several years. She holds a B. S. degree in Home Economics from Savannah State College and has done some graduate work at Prairie View University, Prairie View, Texas. She has served as home demonstration agent in Dodge County and until recently was home demonstration agent in Liberty County.

Morgan County — Mrs. Mattie Thorpe Copeland, the new home demonstration agent in Morgan County, began work in that county October 1, inst. with headquarters in Madison, Georgia.

Mrs. Copeland is the first colored home demonstration agent ever to work in Morgan County. She is a native of Hawkinsville, Georgia and holds a B. S. degree in Home Economics from Savannah State College. She has had varied, helpful experiences; she operated a sewing machine in a factory, Newark, New Jersey clothing factory for four years and was later a radio tube maker four years in the Radio Corporation of America, Harrison, New Jersey. During the short time that she has worked in Morgan County, she has organized some home demonstration clubs and has increased the girls enrollment in the already existing 4-H clubs organized by Mr. F. W. Caudle, colored county agent.

Mrs. Copeland and Mr. Caudle arranged a very attractive booth at the Athens Agricultural Fair, received the fourth premium as well as many favorable comments.

Walton County — Mrs. Mamie Booker Grant began to serve as home demonstration agent in Walton County, September 1, 1954, and is the first colored home demonstration agent to work in Walton County for more than 30 years.

Mrs. Grant is a native of Metter, Georgia and is a 1954 graduate of Fort Valley State College, holding the degree of B. S. in Home Economics. She is a former 4-H Club member and served for four years in various offices in her 4-H Club. Since beginning work in Walton County, she has organized some home demonstration clubs and reorganized several of the 4-H clubs; conducted a 4-H Club Chain Poultry Show in Monroe and sent two blue ribbon pullets to the State 4-H Poultry Show held in Macon where her birds received a blue ribbon from the State show. She arranged an attractive booth at the Walton County Fair and this booth received a first place premium. She took three ladies to the North Georgia District Home Demonstration Council meeting which was held in Atlanta, Georgia in September.

Columbia County — Miss B'-Countess R. D. Hale is the newest colored agent on the force, having begun work as home demonstration agent in Columbia County, November 1, 1954, and has her headquarters in Harlem, Georgia. She is filling the place left vacant by Mrs. Elizabeth Essic, who resigned from the work September 1 because of illness.

Miss Hale is a native of Sylacauga, Alabama and holds a B. S. degree in Home Economics from Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. She has done some graduate work at Tuskegee Institute.

Extension workers hold regional meet

Discuss new approach to farm, home development

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —The new approach to farm and home development was the general theme of the regional meeting of extension workers in Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 1-5.

Dr. John W. Mitchell, national extension leader, USDA, Washington, who conducted the five-day meeting, presented Dr. Harry V. Richardson, president, Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, who welcomed the group and led the opening devotion.

Extension Director P. O. Davis of Alabama told the 45 leaders and supervisors, in the opening sesion, that farmers are investing more money in land and equipment but their profits are not matching their higher investments.

* * *

DIRECTOR DAVIS pointed out that "the out-of-pocket cost of operating small farms is rising, with the result that a single crop failure might cause a man to lose his total investments."

Extension Director W. A. Sutton of Georgia discussed means of strengthening and expanding 4-H Club work through farm and home development and other ways. And in his talk, Director Sutton told the group how Georgia is improving its 4-H program through investing two-and-a-half million dollars in camps for rural youth.

"Integrating county program development and the annual plan of work into one program," was outlined by Director C. A. Vines of Arkansas.

* * *

ABOUT MIDWAY the week-long meeting, Dr. Mitchell presented Assistant Extension Administrator Otto Croy of Washington, who made remarks on how the Federal Extension Service renders aid to the states.

Other speakers were as follows: R. E. Jones, state leader, North Carolina; Dr. George D. Halsey, personnel officer, FCA, South Carolina; R. W. Schoffner, North Carolina;

Also, Mrs. Fannie M. Boone, district home demonstration agent, Florida, and Thomas L. Ayers, ACPS, USDA, Washington.

* * *

OTHER DISCUSSION leaders included: George Foster, Federal Extension Service, Washington; L. J. Washington, FHA agriculturist, Washington; Miss Mona Hogan, field agent, Washington;

Ralph Fulghum, Division of Extension Information, Washington; Charles A. Sheffield, field agent, Washington; Dr. Gladys Gallup, Federal Extension Service, Washington;

* * *

W. B. HILL, state leader, Alabama; P. H. Stone, state leader, Georgia; Mrs. Marion B. Paul, state home demonstration supervisor, South Carolina; Stanley Marshall, district supervisor, Virginia, and Miss Bessie Walton , assistant state supervisor, Tennessee.

W. H. Williamson, assistant state supervisor, Tennessee, gave an overall summary at the close of the five-day meeting. Closing remarks were made by Dr. Mitchell, who received a silver serving tray in recognition of his long service to farm families in the nation.

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Atlanta, Ga.
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ULISH BELCHER, first-prize winner of the "Sweepstakes award" the highest to be given at the Newton County Annual Ham and valuable prize of the popular Georgia show. Prize winning eggs are held by Miss Bernice Johnson, left and Mrs. Maude Gaither, right both of Newton County. Miss Gaither is a tenth grade student at Washington Street School in Covington, Ga. Third photo

shows 15-year-old Willie Thomas, Jr. left showing off his prize hamof bacon. The show was held in Covington, Ga., February 7 and which won second prize known as the "Reserve Sweepstate." Next8.—(Perry Photos).
is Emmett Wood, first prize-winner of the "middling" a prize piece

Ulish Belcher Wins Sweepstakes Award At Covington Farm Show

By HARMON G. PERRY

A 72-year-old Oxford, Georgia farmer, who specializes in raising cotton and corn, became a three-time winner, Tuesday, when he won the top prize in the Annual Newtan County Ham and Egg Show in Covington, Georgia.

Ulish Belcher's 15 pound ham earned for him the "Sweepstakes Award" for the third consecutive year, climaxing the two day farm festival held in the gymnasium of the Washington Street School. Belcher also won second place in middling competition, and fourth place in shoulders.

Bernice Johnson, a 4-H Club member and 10th grade student at Washington Street School, shared honors with Mrs. Minnie Gaither as winners in the egg exhibit. Miss Johnson, winner in the junior division, produced her prize winning eggs from 57 New Hampshire Reds, while Mrs. Gaither's prize was the product of New Hampshire Reds and White Rocks.

Fifteen year old Willie Thomas Jr., won the "reserve Sweepstakes" (second place) prize for hams; while Emmett Wood won first place for his middling bacon.

The spacious gymnasium in addition to being the exhibit place for the dozens of meat products, eggs and canned foods, was also the scene of lecture, demonstrations and movies farm living and management under the direction of J. W. Horne, County Agent.

Officials of the Georgia Agricultural Extension Service were on hand to participate on the colorful program while farmers, their wives, and young 4-H Club boys and girls took part in demonstrations and competed for the numerous prizes and awards.

K. C. Childers, Special Agent of the State Agricultural Extension Service, in addressing the assembly, emphasized "progress, cooperation, reasoning, clean thinking, and character as foundations for a citizen's contribution to society. "The citizen of this community have got to make a contribution to the new South."

C. E. Bell, Livestock Specialist for the Extension Service, gave a lecture butchering, cleaning, preservation, feeding and sanitation of livestock to the farmers in Monday's session.

Tri-County

Ham 'n Egg Show Is Really Swell

The Rochelle Colored High school was host to the Tri-County Ham and Egg Show sponsored by the Farm Bureau Organization of Crisp, Wilcox and Turner Counties of Georgia, Friday, March 26.

Using the theme "A Better Live At Home Program" farmers were urged to improve and perpetuate the home supply of livestock and poultry.

Greetings of welcome were given visiting farmers and friends by J. L. Faircloth, superintendent of Wilcox County school.

On hand for lectures on meat-cutting and trimming and egg selection and display was Robert Church. Church has worked for a number of years as co-sponsor of the Peach County Ham and Egg Show at Fort Valley State College, and as a result of this experience proved to be valuable in giving points to the farmers present.

Guest speaker H. L. Wingate, Georgia Farm Bureau president. He was introduced by Senator Cecil D. Crommy who also offered words of encouragement to the farmers and vocational agriculture and extension workers.

Wingate's points of emphasis were the importance of production controls ninety per-cent parity, and increased farm Bureau membership. He urged the group to show him a farmer or a business man who did not exercise controls and he would show them a man who would not be in business long.

Other state workers present were McKinley Wilson, head of Itinerant Teacher Trainer for Negro Schools and R. L. Dunlap, Special farm bureau field representative. These men spoke briefly on the educational value of Ham and Egg Shows.

Prizes for handicraft were awarded by Supt. J. L. Faircloth. First prize went to the Lacy School, Wilcox County; second prize went to the Eureka High School Turner County.

Prizes for best Ham, Shoulders, Sides, White Egg and Brown Eggs were awarded by Senator Cecil D. Crommy.

First prize for ham, W. B. Taylor of Wilcox, 2nd prize, Phil Collier of Turner, third prize Northern Everson of Wilcox.

First prize for shoulder, Robert Harris; second prize W. B. Taylor, third prize, Northern Everson, all of Wilcox.

First prize for side, Clarence Smith, second prize, Willie Peavy, third prize, Harry Butts, all of Wilcox.

First prize for white eggs, Mrs. J. M. Memphis of Crisp, second prize, Northern Everson of Wilcox.

First prize for brown eggs, Mrs. Barlow of Crisp, 2nd prize, Thelma Benjamin of Wilcox, 3rd prize, Melton Dunlap of Crisp. The judges for the occasion were Miss Minnie B. Pryer, Miss Bobbie Jackson, Mr. H. D. Hills, Mr. R. T. Church and Mr. Cecil Smith.

States' Rights Due Drought Sufferers!

The Federal Government, observing established and bureaucratic yardstick regulations, is not yet able to lend disaster aid to Georgia farmers who are experiencing losses because of drought. There is worse suffering in other areas where it has not rained in years.

But, the Georgia disaster is real and acute.

It is being reflected in small towns already where merchants, largely dependent on farmer trade, are suffering. In time it will be felt in the larger ones.

The farmer is the mudsill of our prosperity.

Since that disaster is real and acute, why do not the states where farmers are suffering do something about it? Why does not Georgia, for example, one of the loudest voices in behalf of states' rights, do something for its suffering people? Are states' rights merely to be used at national conventions or do they have any real meaning?

Farmers can't eat states' rights if they are merely political words.

They can't feed, clothe or send their children to school and pay for it with states' rights.

The states where there is disaster have all called special sessions of the legislature for many petty reasons. Taxes have been raised for meaner reasons than aid to farmers.

Yet all that has been done in their behalf is to "ask Washington for help."

We can't go on talking out of both sides of our mouth. We can't damn Washington with charges of "interference" when it is a regulation or a control, and go hollering to Washington for a handout when we don't want to spend state money.

What's wrong with Georgia making an honest effort to help her own people—if she believes in states' rights and in her own people?

Something must be done for the farmers ruined by drought.

1b 1954

GEORGIA

Widow, Sons Team Up To Save Farm; Set Example In Raising Cash Crops

WASHINGTON — How a 58-year-old widow and her four-teenage sons teamed up to save their farm after the father's death, and then went on to set an outstanding example in diversified farming, is told in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture by P. H. Stone, state supervisor of Negro extension work in Georgia.

The story begins in 1928 when Frank A. Cobb, who had just begun buying a 197-acre farm, died leaving a $4,800 debt for his widow and four teenage boys to assume.

"At first I thought of giving up the farm," says Mrs. Dinah Cobb, "because I didn't see how my boys and I could pay off the mortgage in six years. But finally we decided to give it a try."

That year they planted 50 acres of cotton and worked from sun-up until sun-down, trying to meak a good crop, but the boll weevils left them only seven bales. "That brought just enough to pay the note," says the widow. "And if we hadn't been raising our own food, I don't know how we could have made it."

Mrs. Cobb and her boys barely got by in 1929: and 1930 went out leaving them holding eight bales of cotton, hoping the price would go up a little. They held that cotton for three years, and finally sold it for less than half what it would have brought the day it was ginned.

The 1932 crop didn't bring enough to pay the note. They were able to pay only half of it, and the bank waited for the rest. "But the next year," boasts Mrs. Cobb, "we paid out, and we haven't been in any debt that amounted to anything since."

Stone points out that the big reason they were abe to stay out of deb was that they were growing just about all their food, including flour. "And unlike many of their neighbors," the supervisor continues, "they don't count on any one cash crop."

MRS. DINAH COBB, 84, who still takes a keen interest in the modern farming practices carried out on her 197-acre farm near Midville, Ga., observes how Special County Agent Kennedy C. Childers inc ulates vetch seed. Left to right, L. E. Cobb, Childer, Frank, Jr., Mrs. Cobb and Grandson Cobb.

VARIETY OF CASH CROPS

At the suggestion of a former county agent, Kennedy C. Childers, who now directs the Ham and Egg Show program throughout the State, the Cobbs began raising a variety of cash crops. These now include cotton, corn, wheat, oats, peanuts, peaches, pears, watermelons, general truck crops, and a few head of cattle and hogs.

Mrs. Cobb and her sons believe in keeping their land in top shape, too. They rotate their crops and carry out sound soil building practices. Each year they seed such winter legumes as Austrian Winter peas and lupine.

For operating purposes, the farm is divided among three of the brothers: Granderson, Frank, jr., and L. E. The latter lives in the two-story home place with his mother, wife, and baby, while the other two live in their own homes. The youngest son, Leslie, now resides in New York. There are two older sisters who were married and living in other communities at the time of their father's death.

SONS IN PARTNERSHIP

The sons own a tractor and a small truck in partnership, and they purchase all their farm supplies together. Granderson, the oldest son, is manager of the partnership. They hope to acquire more land so that each may have and adequate family-sized unit.

Their homes are modern and comfortable. When the Rural Electrification Administration brought electricity to the rural areas around Midville, the Cobbs were among the first to sign up. Soon they installed electric pumps and now have hot and cold running water and bathrooms.

Mrs. Cobb, now 84, still takes an active part in the management of the farm. She is glad her boys have a better start than she and her husband had when they were married in 1887.

"Not only did we have to rent a little piece of land to farm," says Mrs. Cobb, "but we also had to rent a mule to plow it with."

MRS. COBB and two of her sons go over their farm Georgia State Extension Supervisor P. H. Stone and C Roscoe Brown look on. Seated left to right are Mrs. Cobb Jr., and Grandson Cobb. Standing are Mr. Br Stone.

No Ga. Areas On Extended Drought List

Secretary of Agriculture Benson Tuesday added 93 counties in six states to the drought disaster areas already designated, but none of them were in Georgia.

The counties, which will receive benefits of an emergency livestock feed and hay program, are in Arkansas, Colorado, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Wyoming. They bring to 414 the number of counties in eight states designated to date.

Georgia has applied for relief under the government-subsidized feed program but so far has not been included. A total of 108 counties in the state, however, have been certified as eligible for emergency production loans through facilities of the Farmers' Home Administration.

Farm Family Grows Its Own Home

ATHENS, Ga. — The $21,000 home of the Allen Moons, Negro farm family of Comer, is a shining example of what a farm family can accomplish through cooperation.

L. C. Trawick, county agent for Clarke County, says that the new Moon home is a major product of a well planned and ably executed farm program. Mr. Moon, who owns 209 acres of farm land with 17 acres in cultivation, also rents 90 acres for cultivation. The farming program is a general one which includes 14 acres of improved pasture, 60 acres of cotton, 28 acres of corn and 125 acres of small grains. Beef and dairy cattle, hogs, chickens, vegetables and wheat are grown to supply food for the family table.

Mr. Trawick says that the Moons have always concentrated upon producing just as many of the family needs at home as possible. Lumber for the new house, for example, was a home-grown product and this plus careful saving and management of the farm income enable the Moons to have the house completely paid for before they moved in.

The recently completed two-story farm house contains ten rooms including the bath and a fully-equipped, modern kitchen, has hardwood floors throughout, and is equipped with an exhaust-fan cooling system. Each room is well and attractively furnished and the home contains such extra touches of gracious living as telephone extensions, a picture window, an open fireplace and a piano in the living room.

Mr. Allen Moon, father of this Negro farm family of eleven and builder of this imposing farm dwelling, presents the house with justifiable pride, but insists that it is a family achievement in every respect. As proud as he is of the home, Moon says his greatest pride is in his children and the way they have supported him in his farming program through the years. It is through their fine cooperation that he and Mrs. Moon are now able to enjoy the facilities of the new home in their later years, he adds.

All nine of the children are adults now. With the exception of one son who has remained at home to assist with the farming, all attended college and are engaged in the profession of teaching. During summer vacations those who are not attending summer school take full advantage of the opportunity to renew their farm experiences by returning home to help their father and mother. Each has his own room in the new home for such visits.

The county agent explains that the Moons greatest asset is their ability to plan and work together as a family unit. "No single member of the family ever makes a major decision alone, every major decision is a family decision," he declares. He adds that as such a family unit, the Moons do more than their share in any activity or project undertaken in their county or by their community.

Trawick believes that more farm families could, like the Moons, enjoy the advantages of better homes and better farm living by working together to achieve family goals, by actively supporting their local farm organizations, and by being guided by the information and assistance given by their local agricultural leaders.

AS PEANUT HARVESTING TIME gets underway, Walter F. Flowers (stooping at right) of Fort Valley, Ga., proudly shows off his homemade peanut stack lifter and conveyor attachment. Looking on are County Agent Robert T. Church; State Extension Supervisor P. H. Stone and Mrs. Flowers. Like the store-bought attachment, this device fastens to the back of a tractor and serves to lift and carry stacks of dried peanuts still on the vines to a nearby peanut picker in the field.

Ft. Valley Plans Ham, Egg Show To Begin Feb. 9

FORT VALLEY, Ga.—Fort Valley State College will be the scene of the 38th annual Ham and Egg show February 9 thru March 11. The show was started in 1916 by Otis S. O'Neeal, retired county agent.

The first show was designed to help increase the quality and quanity of farm meat and poultry supplies. The annual event generally climaxes a year's work in poultry and pork productions has become an important farm event throughout Georgia.

Each year since the inaugural Ham and Egg show there have been displays of choir hams, fresh yard eggs, canned by products of porkers and poultry.

Farm experts from throughout the area sit down for discussion of their problems.

ham And Egg Show Series Now Entering Second Month

FT. VALLEY — The series of 24 ham and eggs shows in Georgia this year has entered its second month, with eight more of the events to be held during March.

P. H. Stone, state agent for Negro Extension work, announced the remainder of the schedule as follows: March 4-5 — Clarke-Oconee and Walton Counties; March 8-9 — Brooks and Grady; March 10-11 — Meriwether; March 11-12 — Fort Valley; March 25-26 — Dougherty and Randolph.

Stone said the show coming up here on March 11 and 12 will climax the entire ham and egg program this year. He explained that the program began here 39 years ago. O. S. O'Neal, retired county agent, supervised the first show.

The event here this year, for Peach and Houston Counties, will attract approximately 150 farmers, farmers' wives and 4-H Club boys who will actually participate in the event. R. T. Church and J. M. Moody county agents, said several hundred more are expected to attend the show at Ft. Valley State College.

The show will feature displays of choice hams, fresh yard eggs, and canned pork and poultry products. The exhibits will be judged by C. E. Bell, Jr., and R. O. Williams, livestock specialists for the Agricultural Extension Service, and J. F. Mauldin, Extension poultry marketing specialist.

Church said awards valued at $250 will be presented, with the person showing the grand champion ham receiving $10. Exhibitor of the reserve champion ham will get $7.50. The best eggs will earn a $5 prize, and the second place egg award will be $3.

The county agent said the awards are being provided by interested local individuals, businesses and clubs, including: Bank of Fort Valley, Bank of Perry, Woolfolk Chemical Co., Green Motor Co., J. F. Dukes and Sons, Ft. Valley Motor Co., Blue Bird Body Co., Ft. Valley Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Elrod's Store and others.

In addition to the competition, the ham and egg show will feature a planned program designed to bring farm and non-farm families together for educational and inspirational information. Church said the program calls for method demonstrations, pageants, skits and forum discussions.

The show will climax a year's work in the program of "Better Farming Practices and Better Family Living" for Negro farm families. Church said that during the 39 years the ham and egg program has been carried on in this county, Negro farm families have become more efficient in pork and poultry production.

He continued that both farmers and 4-H Club members not only are learning how to profitably feed and manage swine and chickens, but how to select improved breeds as well. "The razor back hog and the mongrel type chicken are disappearing from the farms of Georgia," the county agent said.

Ulish Belcher Wins Sweepstakes Award At Covington Farm Show

OXFORD, GEORGIA FARMER THREE-TIME WINNER!

By HARMON G. PERRY

A 72-year-old Oxford, Georgia farmer, who specializes in raising cotton and corn, became a three-time winner, Tuesday, when he won the top prize in the Annual Newton County Ham and Egg Show in Covington, Georgia.

Ulish Belcher's 15 pound ham earned for him the "Sweepstakes Award" for the third consecutive year, climaxing the two day farm festival held in the gymnasium of the Washington Street School. Belcher also won second place in middling competition, and fourth place in shoulders.

Bernice Johnson, a 4-H Club member and 10th grade student at Washington Street School, shared honors with Mrs. Maude Gaither as winners in the egg exhibit. Miss Johnson, winner in the junior division, produced her prize winning eggs from 57 New Hampshire Reds, while Mrs. Gaither's prize was the product of New Hampshire Reds and White Rocks.

Fifteen year old Willie Thomas Jr., won the "reserve Sweepstakes" (second p l a c e) prize for hams; while Emmett Wood won first place for his middling bacon.

The spacious gymnasium in addition to being the exhibit place for the dozens of meat products, eggs and canned foods, was also the scene of lecture, demonstrations and movies farm living and management under the direction of J. W. Horne, County Agent.

Officials of the Georgia Agricultural Extension Service were on hand to participate on the colorful program while farmers, their wives, and young 4-H Club boys and girls took part in demonstrations and competed for the numerous prizes and awards.

K. C. Childers, Special Agent of the State Agricultural Extension Service, in addressing the assembly, emphasized "progress, cooperation, reasoning, c l e a n thinking, and character as foundations for a citizen's contribution to society. "The citizen of this community have got to make a contribution to the new South."

C. E. Bell, Livestock Specialist for the Extension Service, gave a lecture butchering, cleaning, preservation, feeding and sanitation of livestock to the farmers in Monday's session.

EULISH BELCHER, first-prize winner of the "Sweepstakes award" the highest to be given at the Newton County Annual Ham and Egg show. This is Mr. Belcher's third year as winner of the most valuable prize of the popular Georgia show. Prize winning eggs are held by Miss Bernice Johnson, left and Mrs. Maude Gaither, right both of Newton County. Miss Gaither is a tenth grade student at Washington Street School in Covington, Ga. Third photo shows 15-year-old Willie Thomas, Jr. left showing off his prize ham which won second prize known as the "Reserve Sweepstate." Next is Emmett Wood, first prize-winner of the "middling" a prize piece of bacon. The show was held in Covington, Ga., February 7 and 8.—(Perry Photos).

FARM EXCHANGE YOUTHS BACK HOME—Two young youngsters, 4-H International Farm Youth Exchange students, arrived in Greensboro last week after five months of study of European agriculture, Maxine Young, center, Louisburg, RFD 3, and Rapphet Cuthbertson, right, Matthews (Mecklenburg County), relate their interesting experiences to Mrs. Idel J. Randall, left, 4-H Club specialist with the A. & T. College Extension Service.

The two, part of a contingent of 97 representatives from the United States which visited in 25 countries in Europe and Asia, spent most of their time in England, but both had "free time" excursions on the continent which included stops in France, Holland, Switzerland and Germany.

Cuthberston is a senior in Agriculture at A. & T. and Miss Young is a June graduate of Shaw University.

Sound Farming Practices On 63 Acres Bring Ky. Colored Farmer Good Living

Although the trend is toward large mechanized farms, Joe W. Carter, a 63-acre colored farmer of Lexington, Ky., is proving that farmers can make a good living on limited acreage, says Kentucky Extension Specialist John H. Finch in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"It isn't the amount of land," he quotes Mr. Carter as saying, "it's the yield per acre." Before he started building up the fertility of his land, the Kentucky farmer used to plant 60 acres of corn in order to harvest 240 bushels.

Today, by seeding winter cover crops, such as vetch and barley, and turning these under in the spring, and applying the proper quantity of the right composition of fertilizer, he produces as much corn on three acres as he used to get off 20. "And think of the 17 acres I don't have to plow and chop," Mr. Carter points out.

He has had similar success in upping his tobacco yield and his hay production. He now harvests 1,800 pounds of Burley tobacco per acre off the same land that used to yield just a little over 1,000 pounds.

On his 63-acre farm, Mr. Carter has six in tobacco, three in corn, and the rest in clovers, alfalfa, lespedeza, and bluegrass for his 30 head of Hereford beef cattle and a few Poland China hogs. The latter he raises mostly for home use. He figures his gross income from the sale of tobacco and calves has been averaging better than $5,000 a year.

Mrs. Carter got started in farming on his own when he returned from camp following World War I with $38 in his pocket. He got married and paid down $15 on 23 acres. One of his brothers shared in the ownership of the plot until he bought him out in 1938. Later, he and his wife acquired 40 acres more. Occasionally, they rent some extra land for pastures.

Mr. and Mrs. Carter live in an attractive two-story brick home. With the help of Mrs. Hattie S. Harris, Fayette home demonstration agent, Mrs. Carter has expanded her food preservation program. She cans some, but puts most of her meats, fruits and vegetables in a freezer locker they rent in town. The Carters have a son in Detroit and a daughter and her husband home with them.

"I got started on the right track," says Mr. Carter, "when my county agent encouraged me to send samples of my soil to the State laboratory for testing. When the report came back, I knew for the first time what my land really needed."

Making a go of farming on limited acreage is the problem that most colored farmers in Kentucky face, says Mr. Finch, who points out that the average size of their farms is only 38 acres. He thinks Mr. Carter's approach may have wide application, not only in Kentucky, but also throughout the South where the average size of all Negro operated farms is just 46 acres.

AME India Is Come To the U.S.A.

By H. A. PERRY
1665 Columbia Ave.
Indianapolis, Indiana

Brethren, please do not let it be said of us: "Lord, when did I see thee hungry or thirsty, or naked, or in prison and came not to your rescue?" Then will the Lord answer, "Inasmuch as you did it not unto the least of these my little ones, ye did it not unto me."

The founder of African Methodism in India may be reached at my above address about February 1st. He is the Rev. J. Edwards. Those of our fine brethren who are truly interested in the spreading of African Methodism to broader climes will find it easy to do something about it.

Because of the great cost of coming to the U. S. from India, Dr. Edwards can make but a very few personal visits but if a few of you will write me at once I will be most happy to arrange for him to come to you and tell, "How the A. M. E. Church Became Established in India and What is Being Done Now."

Brethren, India does not and will never shut her doors to the A.M.E. Church. India believes in the principles of the great Church; for more than 150 years her faithful Sons have been preaching that "God is Our Father, Christ is our Redeemer and Man Everywhere is our Brother." A church which preaches this doctrine and lives up to it; when Jesus comes will still be "Bringing in the Sheaves."

West African News

P. O. Box 0175
Market Circle
Takoradi, Gold Coast
British West Africa
December 15th, 1953

My dear Editor of the Christian Recorder:

I am sending the enclosed which I trust you will publish in the columns of your paper.

It gives me much pleasure to write this article, so the Home Church may know of the very fine work being done in the Gold Coast by Bishop Hatcher, in the Gold Coast, entitled "The 14th Episcopal District's New Episcopate."

Sometime last April, 1953, there landed at Monrovia, Liberia, the newly elected and assigned Bishop of the 14th Episcopal District, embracing the Sierra Leone, the Liberia and the Gold Coast Conferences, the Rt. Rev. E. C. Hatcher, D.D., LL.D., and Lady Hatcher, to begin the work of supervising the District during the current quadrennium. After holding the Liberia Conference, which we all understood was a brilliant success, the Bishop and Lady Hatcher arrived at Takoradi Harbour, to hold the 18th session of the Gold Coast Conference, a party of Presiding Elders, Ministers and Laity of the Gold Coast Conference, met the Bishop and Lady Hatcher at the Harbour, and extended a most cordial welcome to His Lordship and Lady Hatcher, their distinguished guests. After going through the Custom's formalities, the party drove to the palatial residence of Mr. Baidoo Ansah, a successful timber contractor of Takoradi, where the Bishop and Lady Hatcher were sumptuously entertained during their stay in Takoradi.

It is no exaggeration to say that the 18th Session of the Gold Coas Conference, presided over by Bishop Hatcher, was the most successful by any of the Bishops of the 14th Episcopal District. In a large measure, Bishop Hatcher was exactly the same as that most fatherly Bishop E. J. Howard, D.D., of blessed memory, an ideal Bishop.

At the recent conferences held in the Fifteenth Episcopal District, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Natal Conference:

We, the duly elected representatives of the Natal Annual Conference in session in Burghersdorp, Cape Province, during 2nd-6th December, 1953, wish to express our sincere regret over the non-arrival of Bishop and Mother Jordan in this country, and, although we realize that it is through no fault of their own, we nonetheless feel the need of a bishop, and we also have a feeling of loneliness;

We herewith, further wish to express our deep sense of loyalty to the Mother Church and hope that we may always be remembered in her prayers and may she never forget nor grow cold towards her children in this distant land;

It is our fervent desire that you keep before you our sincere request, several time
a son of the soil be elevated to the status of a Bishop in the Church.

We are, your humble and obedient servants,

M. M. Makwili
Z. B. Tiger
J. J. N. Mdlulwa

Basutoland Conference:

That we render r
thanksgiving to Almighty God that He has brought us safely to the close of a successful conference;

That, whereas, our General Superintendent, Dr. the Reverend F. H. Gow, acting in the absence of the bishop, sensibly and capably presided over our Annual Conference; we pass a vote of full confidence in him, and he be given a rousing cheer.

B. M. Monyake
I. M. Nape
E. M. Tsholas.

Cape Annual Conference:

Whereas, we note with deep regret that due to the Government's attitude with regards to the entry of our Bishop into the Union of South Africa, letters in the Church Press in America have circulated the idea that there is a movement afoot to sever our connection with the Mother Church . . . .

This Cape-Southwest Africa Annual Conference of the 15th Episcopal District assembled at Keetmanshoop, Southwest Africa, resolve;

(a) That we reaffirm our undivided loyalty to the Church of our Fathers and that we will do everything in our power to consolidate our position so as to be able to resist any attempt at schism.

LIVE AT HOME COMPETITION

TENANT CHAMPIONS — Taking first place in the Tenant Division of The Commercial Appeal's 1954 Live-At-Home Competition were Luther and Birtie Mae Mathis of Route 1, Bells, Madison County, who have lived on the same farm for 31 years. Birtie Mae Mathis (4) and her nephew, Oscar Tyson (1) talk over their farm projects with Anna B. Jackson (2), home demonstration agent, and A. M. Dobbins (3), county agent in charge of Negro work.

TELEVISION FANS — A television set was one of the improvements added to the home of Arnieta and Andrew Green (center and right), who were named as Tennessee landowner champions in the Live-At-Home program this year. In operating their 120-acre cotton, dairy and livestock farm the couple co-operate closely with Curtis Koonce, Negro county agent.

1b 1954

LOUISIANA

Family Of 8 Making Good With Combination Farm Enterprises

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A family of eight is making a good living on 40 acres in Louisiana from a combination of farm enterprises — livestock, poultry, cotton, and tractor custom work — says Assistant State Extension Agent R. J. Courtney in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The family is headed by Theodore Roosevelt Jackson of St. Joseph, La. who started out as a fourth hand with a borrowed mule in 1932. Since that time he and Mrs. Jackson and their children have bought and paid for a 40-acre farm of their own, a tractor, a mowing machine, and a truck.

650 WHITE LEGHORN

Part of their recent success results from egg production, their newest enterprise. They have over 600 White Leghorn layers that produce as many as 240 dozen eggs a week during the peak of the season, bringing them better than $500 a month. And their husbandry practices are pointed to as a good example for the other new local poultry farmers to follow.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson had been raising a few chickens all along for home use. But when County Agent L. S. Whitlow suggested that they go into commercial egg production with 650 layers to be raised from baby chicks, they hesitated a long time before agreeing to pioneer in hens in their traditionally cotton section along the Mississippi river.

POULTRY HOUSE

The couple had never seen 650 chickens at one time until the truck backed up to their house one day in March, 1952, with a load of chicks. But they were ready. A clean new $777 poultry house that Mr. Jackson had built with the help of some of his neighbors stood waiting. A good heater and running water had been installed, a supply of feed had been stocked and the county agent was ready to show them how to vaccinate the birds.

$144 A WEEK

The facilities and the excellent care the Jacksons took of the birds paid off. During the five and a half months the chicks were growing into layers, only 16 died. In late July the pullets came into production; and by October, the family was grossing $144 a week off their flock.

Their next step is to build a larger poultry house an dexpand into year-round production. Under their present operations, the Jacksons sell off the hens when they stop laying, clean out the house, and start all over again with baby chicks.

Other enterprises on the Jackson farm are: 15 acres of cotton, five of corn, two of hay for their four cows, a truck patch, and a couple of dozen hogs. Half of the latter and two or three calves go to market every year.

Three years ago, the Jacksons bought a tractor and attachments through a loan from the USDA Farmers Home Administration. In addition to working their own small farm, they do a lot of custom work. In the spring, Mr. Jackson breaks ground for neighbors, and in the summer, he attaches his duster and poisons cotton for miles around to kill boll weevils.

The family has a comfortable home with running water. Mr. Jackson built the house himself with the aid of neighbors whom he in turn helped build homes, too.

"The thing that got us ahead," says the farmer, "was staying out of the store." For years, they have grown most of their food supply. That's how they saved up $200 over a three-year period to make the down-payment on their farm.

Named La. Farm Family Of The Year

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Lee Foster family, which lives 11 miles east of Tallulah, La., received first place recognition as the honored farm family of the year in an annual ceremony held this week, at Southern university.

The same family was third-place winners two years ago and second place last year.

With their constant plugging at the best in farm living and practices the Fosters were rewarded for their efforts by the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, State Agricultural Extension Service, Vocational Teachers, and Southern university.

Dr. F. G. Clark, President of Southern, in presenting the family a trophy said, "You are being commended for giving us the character lesson of doing the best with what you have."

1b 1954

LOUISIANA

Hold Annual Yambilee Fete In Opelousas

Defender Chicago Ill. Sat. 10-16-54

OPELOUSAS, La. — The 9th annual Yambilee festival was held here in Opelousas October 5-7 in honor of the sweet potato, major crop of the vicinity.

The annual parade depicted "The Story of Evangeline" and bands from all over the state performed between the decorated floats.

At the program in City Park speakers were Dr. O'Hara Lanier, president of Texas Southern university, Houston, Texas, and Dr. Felton G. Clark, president of Southern university, Baton Rouge, La.

The Queen's ball was held at Cedar Lane club. Reigning as queen was Miss Rosemary Haynes of Baton Rouge, La.

Starting With Borrowed Mule, Farmer Makes Good

ST. JOSEPH, La., — a family of eigh is making a good living on 40 acres in Louisiana from a combination of farm enterprises livestock, poultry, cotton, and tractor custom work — says Assistant State Extension Agent R. J. Courtney in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The family is headed by Theodore Roosevelt Jackson of St. Joseph, La., who started out as a fourth hand with a borrowed mule in 1932. Since that time he and Mrs. Jackson and their children have bought and paid for a 40-acre farm of their own, a tractor, a mowing machine and a truck.

Part of their recent success results from egg production, their newest enterprise. They have over 600 White Leghorn layers that produce as many as 240 dozen eggs a week during the peak of the season, bringing them better than $500 a month. And their husbandry practices are pointed to as a good example for the other new local poultry farmers to follow.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson had been raising a few chickens all along for home use. But when County Agent L. S. Whitlow suggested that they go into commercial egg production with 650 layers to be raised from baby chicks, they hesitated a long time before agreeing to pioneer in eggs in their traditionally cotton section along the Mississippi river.

The couple had never seen 650 chickens at one time until the truck backed up to their house one day in March, 1952, with load of chicks. But they were ready. A clean new $777 poultry house that Mr. Jackson had built with the help of some of his neighbors stood waiting.

The facilities and the excellent care the Jacksons took of the birds paid off. During the five and a half months the chicks were growing into layers, only 16 died. In late July the pullets came into production; and by October, the family was grossing $144 a week off their flock.

Their next step is to build a larger poultry house and expand into year-round production. Under their present operations, the Jacksons sell off the hens when they stop laying, clean out the house, and start all over again with baby chicks.

Other enterprises on the Jackson farm are: 15 acres of cotton, five of corn, two of hay for their four cows, a truck patch, a couple of dozen hogs. Half of the latter and two or three calves go to market every year.

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Daily World

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Sun. 10-17-54

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EGG POINEER IN COTTON AREA—Theodore R. R. Jackson, left, a St. Joseph, La., farmer who is pioneering in commercial egg producotion in a traditionally cotton parish, shows agricultural extension officials the size of eggs he is getting from his flock of 600 White Leghorns. The officials are County Agent. L. S. Whitlow, center; and Assistant State Extension Agent R. J. Courtney. During the peak of production, Mr. Jackson collects as many as 240 dozen eggs a week. He and his family of eight are making a good living on 40 acres from a combination of farm enterprises, including cotton, hogs, and poultry. —USDA Photo.

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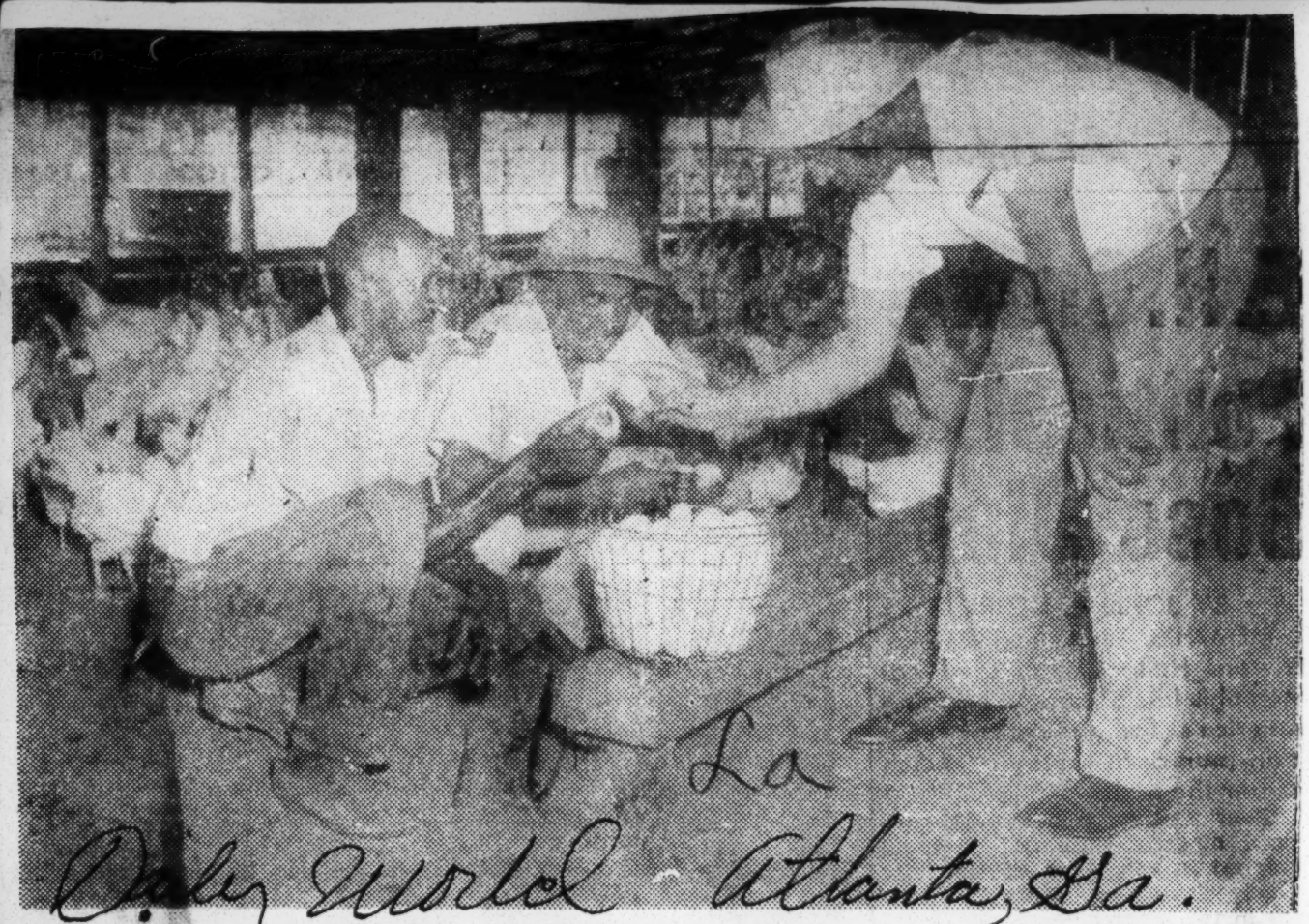

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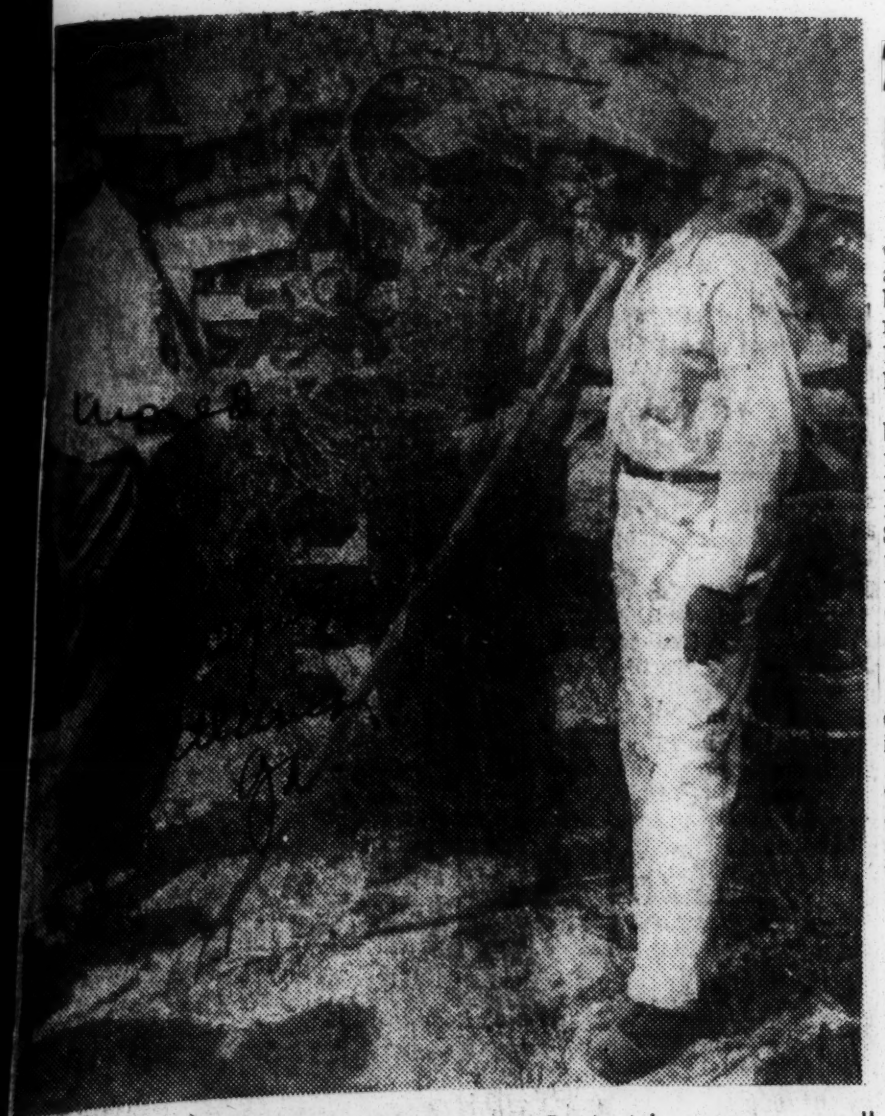


SOLVES MECHANIZATION PROBLEM — R. C. Myrick, center, a small farmer of Marianna, Fla., who is solving the mechanization problem for himself and many of his neighbors by using his peanut picker (in background) to help harvest crops for miles around on a custom rate basis. He is talking over the quality of this year's peanut crop with District Extension Agent J. A. Gresham, left; and County Agent Virgil Elkins. The machine picks more than six tons of peanuts a day. Mr. Myrick's fee for picking is $25 per ton. — (USDA Photo)

25 Times as Many Tractors on Negro Farms in Mississippi Now as in 1930

JACKSON, Miss. — Negro farmers in Mississippi had 25 times as many tractors in 1950 as they had 20 years before, says a report released recently by the Mississippi State College Agricultural experiment station.

The number of tractors owned by colored farmers in Mississippi rose from 242 in 1930 to 6,311 in 1950. but they still owned only a fifth of the farm tractors in the State, while they themselves made up 49 percent of the farm operators. However, the average size of their farms was only 37 acres, compared with 126 for whites.

The report is based on a study made by B. W. Harris, head of the department of agricultural economics of Alcorn A. and M. college Alcorn, Miss., and released through the experiment station. It contains other important data such as tenure of operators, rural and urban population shifts, and farm income and level of living.

Negro farm ownership in Mississippi is reported at 28,940, an increase of 6,290 since 1930. On the other hand, the report says the number of Negro tenants and the 20-year period by 67,000, or a net reduction of 60,000 in the number of Negro farm operators.

Among white farmers, ownership increased by 28,000, and the number of tenants and sharecroppers declined by about 29,500 making for a net reduction of only 1,500 in the number of white farm operators.

In addition, the average size of their farms increased from 87 to 126 acres, and their total land in farms was expanded by five million acres, or 43 percent, while the size of colored farms rose only slightly — from 33 to 37 acres — and their total acreage dropped nearly a million and a half acres.

Total income from all farms in Mississippi during the 20-yer period rose from $230,000,000 to $340,000,000. Livestock and livestock products accounted for 24 percent of it, compared with only 1 percent in 1929. Average farm income nearly doubled, rising from $762 to $1,442, but 47 percent of the white farmers and 56 percent of the colored grossed less than $1,200 in 1949. However, 26 colored farmers and 1,011 whites grossed $25,000 or more that year.

A. D. RUST, 61, INVENTOR, IS DEAD

Built Mechanical Cotton Picker Now in Use—Donated Half of Royalties to Charity

Special to The New York Times.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 21—John Daniel Rust, inventor of the first successful mechanical cotton picker, died of a heart attack yesterday at Pine Bluff. His age was 61.

Mr. Rust's machine built during the early Nineteen-Thirties, picked a bale of cotton in an hour. The inventor was hailed as the man who would save the South. Others said he would ruin the South by depriving thousands of persons of jobs in the cotton fields.

The Rust-type cotton picker did not get into mass production until 1949, when Ben Pearson, Inc., of Pine Bluff and the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company of Milwaukee built pickers based on Mr. Rust's patents.

Mr. Rust is survived by his widow, Mrs. Thelma Ford Rust, and a daughter, Mrs. Marvin Turner of Wichita, Kan.

Brother Was Co-Inventor

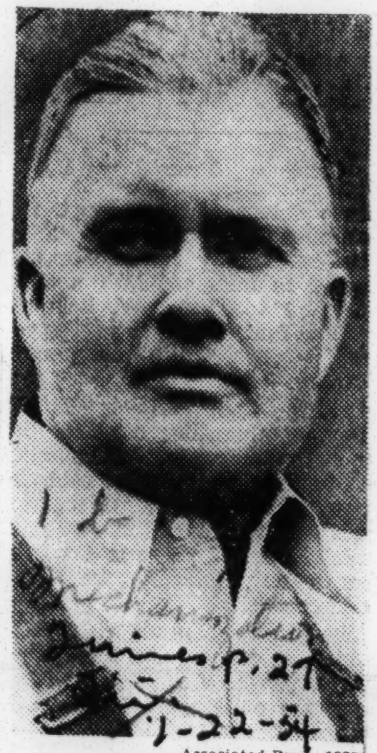
The invention of the Rust cotton picker, now widely used, was initiated by John Rust and participated in by his younger brother, Mack, who was co-inventor.

Mr. Rust assigned 50 per cent of his royalties from the invention to charitable and educational projects. He later invented a cotton cleaner and a lawn mower attachment.

John Rust was born in Stephens County, Texas, a son of Benjamin Daniel and Mrs. Susan Minerva Burnett Rust. He was a high school boy when his parents died. He attended Western College, Artesia, N. M., for a year.

The cotton picker was not his first invention. Previously he built an unworkable steam engine, an unworkable airplane, a cotton chopper to thin out cotton plants, which was not a success, and a suction device to catch boll weevils and harvest cotton bolls, but this was not successful, either.

Mr. Rust, who served in the Army in World War I, was a private and bugler. After the war he spent some years as a migratory worker. Later, in Wichita, Kan., he helped to design and build six wheat combines.



Associated Press, 1935

John D. Rust

Later, thinking about a mechanical cotton picker, Mr. Rust conceived of a long spindle with teeth to be inserted, spinning, in the boll. He fashioned such a device, which wound up the cotton and plucked it out; but a remaining problem was to get out the cotton stuck in the teeth. One night in 1927 he remembered that cotton had stuck to his fingers when it was wet with dew. He licked a nail, inserted it in some cotton and the lint stuck; it was easy to strip off.

Went Into Partnership

Then followed years, beginning in a Weatherford, Tex., garage where he set up a shop, of seeking investments in his idea. He had obtained some funds when his brother arrived and they went into partnership.

The brothers tried the machine in the field and found it faulty. They continued to work on the machine, raised more money and moved to Leesville, La., where they built a new machine. At Waco, Tex., they picked a bale of cotton in one day with their invention.

Mr. Rust re-designed his machine, filed patents for it, and Allis-Chalmers took a license to make the machines. In 1949 the machines went into production.

Mr. Rust founded and was executive trustee of the World Foundation and was a trustee of Co-Op Farms, Inc.

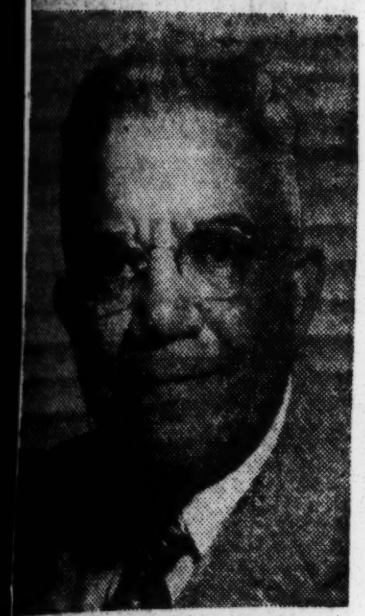
MISSISSIPPI FARMERS STUDY MECHANICAL COTTON PICKER — The mechanical cotton picker interested most of the Mississippi Delta farmers who spent a day recently at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's cotton experiment station at Stoneville, Miss. This group is gathered and listening to E[illegible]nson, engineer, William L. Gile[illegible] dent of the station, discuss the effectiveness of the mechanical picker. It was pointed out that some of the machines can pick as much as eight bales of cotton a day. Last year 22 per cent of the nation's cotton crop was machine harvested. It is estimated that Mississippi farmers alone will have over 1,400 mechanical pickers in the fields this fall. These are expected to harvest 20 per cent of the crop. — (USDA Photo)

New Day For Delta Farmers

THE MECHANICAL cotton picker interested most of the Mississippi Delta farmers who spent a day recently at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's cotton experiment station at Stoneville, Miss. This group is gathered around listening to E. B. Williams, engineer, and William L. Giles, superintendent of the station, discuss the effectiveness of the mechanical picker. It was pointed out that some of the machines can pick as much as eight bales of cotton a day. Last year 22 percent of the nation's cotton crop was machine harvested. It is estimated that Mississippi farmers alone will have more than mechanical picker in the fields this fall. These are expected to harvest 20 percent of the crop.

THE HOE may be going out in the cotton region as mechanical devices step in to take its place. These Mississippi Delta farmers are observing a clame cultivator which is used to burn out the weeds along the cotton rows. Device attracted considerable attention recently when Delta farmers spent a day at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's cotton experiment station at Stoneville, Miss.

Dr. E. B. Evans And John Mitchell Named Agriculture Men Of Year



DR. E. B. EVANS

By International News Service

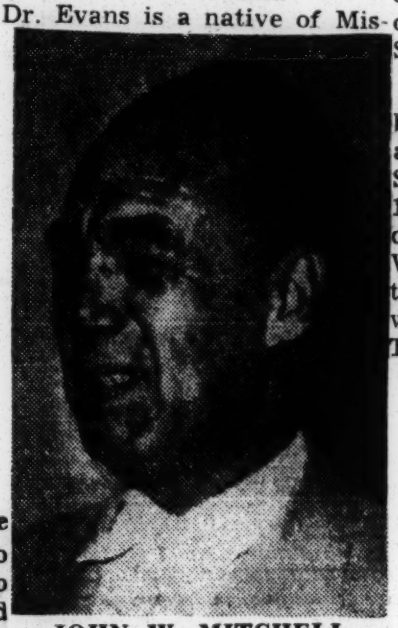
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Two distinguished leaders of Negro rural progress have been named as 1953 "Men of the Year in Service to Agriculture" by The Progressive Farmer, a Southwide farm magazine.

They are John W. Mitchell, national leader of Negro extension work, and Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View Agricultural College of Texas, state land-grant college for Negroes. The awards are announced in the January issue of The Progressive Farmer.

* * *

DR. CLARENCE Poe, editor-in-chief of the magazine, salutes them as "captains of the forward march of agriculture among Negroes in all southern states.

Mr. Mitchell is from North Carolina and Virginia. Thirty-six years ago he began work for the extension service as a buggy-driving emergency agricultural agent in two North Carolina counties. Since then he has worked his way up among Negro extension workers to county agent, district agent, and now to national Negro leadership.



JOHN W. MITCHELL

MUCH OF HIS work will still be with state extension directors and Negro extension supervisors in the South.

Dr. Evans is a native of Missouri, born there in 1894. He received a degree as doctor of veterinary medicine from Iowa State College. He went to Prairie View as a professor of veterinary medicine and established the veterinary department there.

Dr. Evans was made Texas state leader for all Negro agricultural work in 1941. He was lent to Tuskegee (Ala.) Institute in 1945 to plan, organize and build the school of veterinary medicine. He returned to Prairie View in 1946, became dean, and a year later president.

* * *

AMONG HIS recent achievements listed in The Progressive Farmer are these: established at Prairie View an agricultural experiment station, the first wholly operated by a Negro land-grant college; received the $5,000 Hoblitzelle Distinguished Service Award for Advancement of Texas Rural Life; served as a State Department Point IV consultant in 1952 and 1953; and led development of a national school to train Negro county and home agents and other extension workers in the South.

The Progressive Farmer has been making these Southwide awards to "Men of the Year in Service to Agriculture" since 1936. Their honor roll now includes 19 names. Dr. George W. Carver, a foremost agricultural scientist, now deceased, was the first Negro to receive The Progressive Farmer award.

GEORGE W. CARVER FIRST:

Rural mag lists 2 'Men of Year' in agriculture

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Two distinguished leaders of rural progress have been named as 1953 "Men of the Year in Service to Agriculture" by the Progressive Farmer, a Southwide farm magazine.

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Began In Buggy

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lb 1954

MISSISSIPPI

1,000-Acre Miss. Farmer No Longer Counts On Cotton Alone

COLUMBUS, Miss. (ANP) — A thousand-acre farmer, Albert Anthony, is no longer counting on cotton as his only cash crop, but instead is developing a balanced farming program, reports Mrs. Janie V. Hunt, colored home demonstration agent of the Mississippi Extension Service.

For years, Anthony, who is now 73, planted cotton on most of his cleared land.

"It wasn't good for my land," Anthony points out, "and depending on just one crop is taking a long chance."

In recent years, he has turned to livestock, soybeans, and feed crops. One year, he sold nearly 4,000 bales of Johnson grass hay; and another, he sold 20 tons of lespedeza seed.

Anthony began turning to other crops after his cotton field started dropping off, forcing him and his tenants to work more and more in order to eke out a living. Balanced farming was recommended to him by his Soil Conservation District to which he turned for help.

The District sent a soil conservation service technician to his farm to assist him in studying his soil problem. A soil capabilities map was made of his farm, and for the first time, Anthony knew how best each acre of his farm could be used. The Agricultural Conservation Program Service helped him to buy soil building crop seed, to build ponds by sharing in the costs, and to carry out other practices.

"Now, I'm trying to farm according to the recommendations," says Anthony, "and my farm is in much better shape."

Not only does he have a variety of crops now, instead of just cotton and corn, but both his cotton and corn fields are more than double what they used to be. In addition to soybeans and feed crops, he tried his hand at dairying. Mrs. Anthony and their son, Wardell, handled this enterprise. At one time, they had as many as 18 grade and purebred Holsteins and Guernseys and were selling 45 gallons of Grade A milk a day.

Alcorn Teacher Does Research Project On State's Negro Farmers

"Negro Farmers in Mississippi", a study of the changing agricultural economy in Mississippi by type-of-farming areas with special emphasis on the effects of these developments on Negro farm operators, has been recently completed by B. W. Harris, head department of agricultural economics, Alcorn A&M College.

According to the researcher in his general summary, the primary purpose of the study was to examine the character of social and economic changes in rural sectors of Mississippi in order to determine the effects of these developments upon Negro farm operators. The investigation was based largely on census data encompassing two decades 1930-1950.

The study reveals the state's agricultural economy is undergoing a process of expansion and adjustment. Next, the role of the Negro farmer is diminishing in importance while agricultural change is in process. Indications of changes in land use is revealed. The amount of land in farms has increased with the greatest gains being found in the Gulf Coast and Coastal Plains type-of-farming areas. Contrary to this pattern was a decrease in land in Negro farms with the delta and brown loam sectors among the areas having the most significant decreases.

Other significant factors were: Increases in size of farms, plowable pastures, woodland acreage, and livestock. One of the most notable findings was the tremendous development in mechanization and electrification. This change was revealed in the reduction of workstock with a simultaneous increase in tractors and other types of machinery on farms. Even though the total number of tractors on Negro farms is still small, a phenomenal relative increase has occurred since 1930.

Two types of population shifts were disclosed. On one hand was extensive migration from the State and on the other, a concentration of people in urban areas from within the State. There is evidence that the rate of movement has been faster among Negroes.

In discussing the implications of the findings, the writer points out that the expanding use of machinery and electricity on farms decreases the need for unskilled labor and increases the demand for skilled workers. Opportunities, as a result, in productive farm employment are becoming increasingly unattractive for Negro tenants and unskilled farm workers. This is perhaps one of the fundamental causes of population shifts which have been noted.

Data revealed that farm ownership has increased among both racial groups of farmers. This has resulted especially in the case of the Negro, of the landless classes (tenants and sharecropper) moving out of agriculture faster than the land owners.

In closing the author recommends that more research be done to identify, describe, and analyze the problems of small farm operators, especially those pertaining to Negro farmers.

In the foreword, Dr. J. O. Otis, President of Alcorn A&M College, tells of the other research projects that are currently underway at the college: (1) Investigations into the effects of community-wide programs of extension teachings; (2) Rural community delineation studies to determine the impact of farm to market roads, electricity, machine production, and (3) Consolidated schools on the existing social structure.

Mississippi Roundup—

68 Counties Named For Drouth Loans

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8 (U.P.)—The Agriculture Dept. today designated 68 Mississippi counties as emergency loan areas because of severe drouth damage.

The action makes farmers in the counties eligible through Dec. 31, 1955, for low-cost loans from the Farmers Home Administration.

The counties:

Mississippi—Adams, Alcorn, Amite, Attala, Calhoun, Carroll, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Claiborne, Clarke, Clay, Copiah, Covington, Franklin, Grenada, Hinds, Issaquena, Itawamba, Jasper, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Jemper, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Leake, Lee, Lincoln, Lowndes, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Pike, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Rankin, Scott, Sharkey, Simpson, Smith, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union, Warren, Webster, Wilkinson, Lanston, Yazoo, Benton, Bolivar, Coahoma, DeSoto, Holmes, Humphreys, Lafayette, LeFlore, Marshall, Panola, Quitman, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Washington, and Yalobusha.

(The last 17 counties previously had been designated eligible for loans through this December. Today's action extends the eligibility one year.)

Smith said the new route would cross Laurel and run south to Ellisville.

Smith said the entire project could be completed in five years if it is approved by city and county officials. State and federa funds would be used.

SEVEN MORE MISS. COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR DROUGHT AID

Seven additional Mississippi counties were recommended for drought disaster aid Thursday by the state drought committee as details of the critical livestock feeding program were explained to state farm workers by officials of the USDA.

C. L. Neill, state ASC committeeman and chairman of the drought committee, announced that a recommendation was drawn up by the group adding Chickasaw, Claiborne, Clarke, Coahoma, Jasper, Jefferson, Lee, Prentiss and Simpson counties to the fifty Mississippi counties that already have been approved for drought aid by the federal drought committee.

If those additional counties are approved, a total of 57 Mississippi counties will have qualified for federal assistance in buying hay and grains for winter feeding of foundation livestock herds. Under the program, which is closely akin to last year's program, the federal government will subsidize the drought-stricken livestockmen to this extent:

(1) the government will pay one-half of the freight of hay shipped into Mississippi by farmers qualifying for drought assistance, with the government's share not to exceed $10/ton.

(2) the government will pay one dollar per hundredweight on purchases of the following grains—corn, oats, barley, grain sorghums, or mixed foods that contain high percentages of those grains.

To be eligible for drought aid all applicants must be bona fide farmers or stockmen whose principal occupation is farming or ranching and whose financial condition is such that he requires assistance under this program in order to maintain his foundation herd of livestock and continue his livestock operation. "Livestock" in this program means cattle, sheep and goats only.

The 1955 program specifically restrains speculators, food lot operators or farmer-hobbyists from participation. It is aimed at those bona fide farmers whose livelihood depends on the maintenance of his customary herd. Steers, considered feed-lot animals, are not included in the program. In Mississippi the program provides for 60-day assistance taking into account food already on hand on each farm and that which will be harvested during the critical 60-day feeding period. Dairymen who normally buy much of their feed are excluded from the program.

The program will be administered by the county FHA committee in cooperation with the ASC (formerly the PMA) offices and county agents.

Details of the hay program are now being worked out in the governor's office. Details of the grain program will be explained to dealers and feed manufacturers at a special meeting in Jackson September 29.

Under the program all feedstuffs will be purchased by farmers at prevailing market prices. Farmers who have surpluses on their farms are eligible as dealers to other farmers providing certain regulations are adhered to. Payment for grains and hay under the program will be made by the ASC office in the form of negotiable certificates that ultimately will be paid by the Commodity Credit Corporation from their surpluses at market prices.

Negroes Use Of Tractors Grows In Mississippi

Daily World Wed. 11-10-54

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— Farmers in Mississippi had 25 times as many tractors in 1950 as they had 20 years before, says a report released recently by the Mississippi State College agricultural experiment station.

Number of tractors owned by colored farmers rose from 242 in 1930 to 6,311 in 1950, but they still owned only a fifth of the farm tractors in the state, while they made up 49 per cent of the farm operators. However, average sizes of farms was only 37 acres, compared with 126 for whites.

Based on a study by B. W. Harris, head, department, Agricultural Economics, Alcorn A and M College, Alcorn, Miss, and released through the experiment station, it contains other important data such as tenure of operators, rural and urban population shifts, and farm income and level of living.

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Average farm income nearly doubled, rising from $762 to $1,442. but 47 per cent of the white farmers and 56 per cent of the colored farmers and 1,011 whites grossed $25,000 or more that year.

Miss. farmers increase ownership of tractors 25 times in 20 years

Afro-American Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON

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Sat. 11-13-54

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WINNERS TO BE NAMED TODAY IN NEGRO EVENT

Commercial Appeal

Lee, Itawamba Community Judging Ends

Memphis, Tenn.

From The Commercial Appeal Tupelo, Miss., Bureau

TUPELO, Miss., Dec. 15.—The winner of the seventh annual Lee and Itawamba Counties Negro Rural Community Development Contest will be announced at the Negro High School Thursday night.

Thurs. 12-16-54

Judging was completed Wednesday and the winner will be kept secret until Thursday night, Truman Brooks, manager of the Tupelo Community Development Foundation said Wednesday.

The 11 Negro communities entered in the 1954 contest which ended Nov. 15 are Belden, Mlayton, Good Hope, Mt. Zion, Nettleton, Palmetto, Pine Grove, Plantersville, Rhodes, Union Baptist, all in Lee County, and Evergreen in Itawamba.

The Palmetto Community was the 1953 winner.

First place winner will get $125; second, $75 and third $50. C. C. Eason, executive vice president of the People's Bank and Trust Company, sponsoring agency, will make the award.

The Bank of Tupelo will give $200 to the winners in the soil

A REASON TO CELEBRATE—Mr. and Mrs. Charley Perkins of St. Joseph, La., had a good reason to observe National Home Demonstration Week, May 2-8, because they are one of the nation's 240,000 Negro families who have been aided in improving their home through Extension Service teaching. From sharecropping to ownership of 40 acres of good land, a modern home and a home freezer chock full of meats, fruits and vegetables is their story. They are showing a broiler out of their freezer to Assistant State Agent R. J. Courtney, left, of the Louisiana Extension Service. —USDA Photo

Near Quarter Million Farm Homes Improved Via Extension Program

Nearly a quarter of a million Negro farm homes have been improved in construction, maintenance, diet of the family, care of the children, or in family relations as a result of the Extension Service home demonstration program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced in connection with the observance of National Home Demonstration Week, May 2-8.

As part of the annual observance, over a million and a half rural women, including 12,000 homemakers, joined in a program designed to call attention to their achievements in home improvements and to the benefits they have gained through membership in home demonstration clubs.

The program included tours of rural homes in thousands of communities, teas, and meetings. In part, this was a recruitment drive for new club members. Theme of the observance was "Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World."

A look at the achievements of Negro homemakers shows that they have 5,224 organized clubs with a membership of 128,695, and that 239,63 farm homes have been influenced toward better homemaking practices as a result of the home demonstration program.

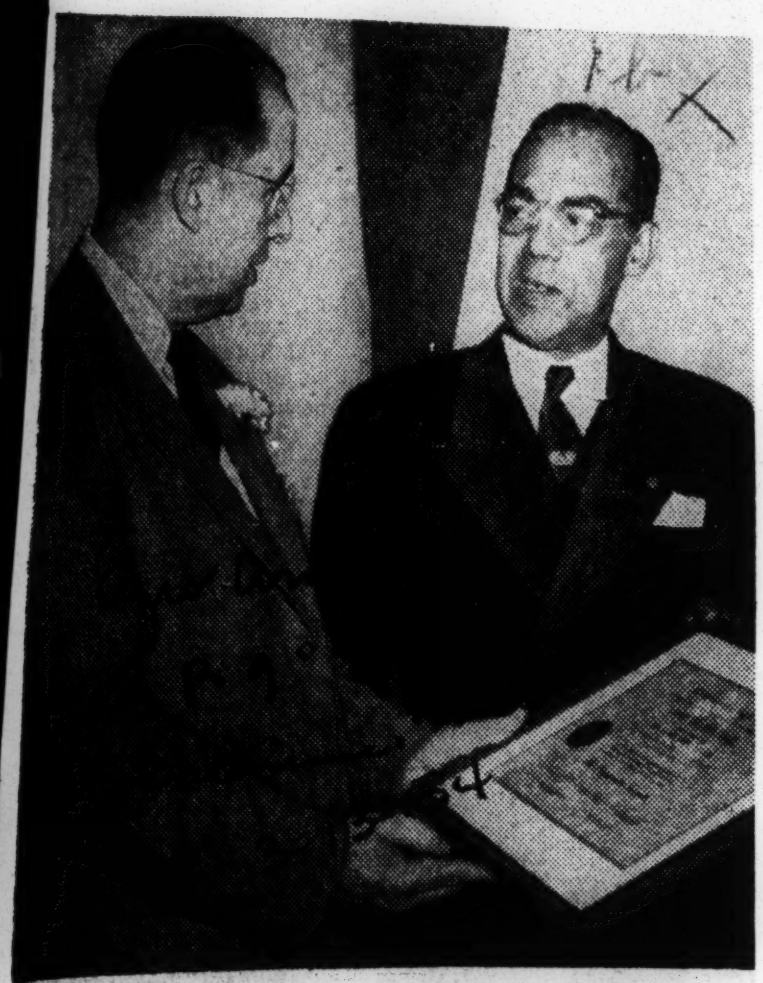
Nearly 54,000 of these homes were reached last year for the first time by the 428 colored home agents and supervisors and some 25,000 volunteer leaders of homemakers in the 17 Southern States.

Some of their specific accomplishments include assisting 13,000 families in improving their diets, 206,000 in producing more food for home use, 156,000 with food preservation problems 65,000 in improving their housekeeping, 92,000 with clothing construction problems, and 46,000 in improving family relationships.

Complementing the staff of home demonstration agents are 410 Negro farm agents and supervisors who help farmers with technical problems relating to the production of crops and the raising of livestock and poultry. The work of the farm and home agents is one means by which the land-grant colleges extend their educational program beyond their campuses to rural people in their homes and on their farms. Altogether, these agents serve more than 400,000 of the South's 510,000 Negro farm operators.

1b 1954

NATIONAL EXTENSION LEADER
MR. JOHN W. MITCHELL



SECRETARY BENSON JOHN W. MITCHELL
EXTENSION LEADER DISPLAYS AWARD

Benson praises Mitchell's award

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson this week heard National Extension Leader John W. Mitchell, tell of his efforts to promote improved farming and better living among rural families of the South.

In recognition of this work, Mr. Mitchell was presented recently the 1953 "Man of the Year in Service to Southern Agriculture" award by the Progressive Farmer magazine.

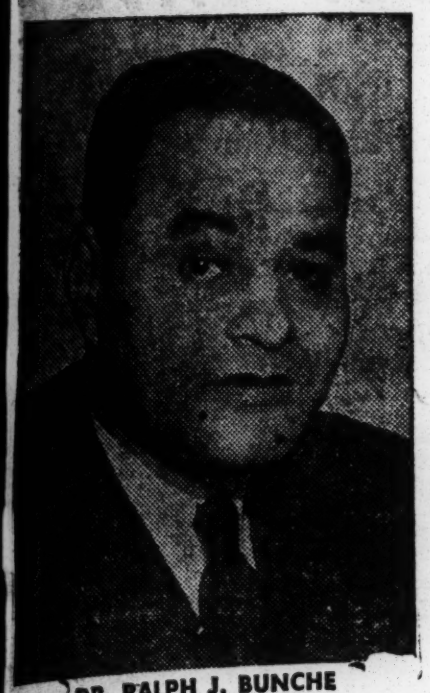
The Secretary congratulated him upon the achievement.

Follows Carver

Dr. George W. Carver and Dr E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View, Texas, A. and M. college, are the only other colored men to be so honored. The latter received his award this year along with Mr. Mitchell.

Others to receive the citation in years past are David Lilienthal, formerly of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Senator Lister Hill of Alabama.

Dr. Ralph Bunche Speaks at National Farm Institute



DR. RALPH J. BUNCHE

"No nation can prosper or be secure today without friendly intercourse with other nations," spoke Dr. Ralph H. Bunche Saturday night at the concluding session of the National Farm Institute here.

Drawing upon his experiences and work with the U.N. to describe the world picture today, Dr. Bunche, director of the department of trusteeship of the United Nations, said:

"What happens politically and economically on one side of the world makes quick impact on the other side.

World Smaller

"The world has become very much smaller, the peoples in it very much closer together," he said.

More than 500 persons attending the dinner preceding his talk at Hotel Fort Des Moines, and another 300 came into the ballroom after the meal to hear Dr. Bunche, 49, winner of the Nobel peace prize in 1950 for his work as acting United Nations mediator in the Palestine war.

Of the United Nations although frankly admitting it was being criticized, Dr. Bunche said "I see no need to make apologies for it or to be defensive about it."

"In my estimation, through its efforts in many troubled and war-torn areas, in Indonesia, Kashmir, Palestine, Iran and Korea, it has staved off atomic world war.

Kept Nations Talking

"Except in Korea, it has been able to keep nations talking rather than shooting, and even in Korea there would have been far more and far wider shooting had there been no United Nations—unless, and this would certainly have been fatal—we were willing to stand by and let Communits aggression have its way in Korea."

The United Nations way is not only the common sense way, it is also the Christian way, said Bunche.

"How can civilization and mankind survive and progress in this atom age unless there is peace, and how can there be peace unless there is organized international effort to achieve it?" asked Bunche.

Much of his talk dealt with the Technical Assistance program of the U.N. which he said was the least publicized U.N. activity.

National Negro County Agents Meet In Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — Appearing at the closing session of the National Negro County Agricultural Agents Association on Wednesday afternoon, Everett Mitchell, director of the network program — the National Farm and Home Hour, told 500 people at Tuskegee that they have a mission to spread the light of education to the many countries of the world who look to us for information and technical assistance.

44 COUNTRIES

Speaking from the topice, "Men and Women with a Mission," he drew upon his recent experiences in visiting 44 countries around the world. He related countless human interest stories from Germany where he saw the Marshall good being done by the several programs of organized assistance; the German children wanting to cultivate peace and friendship with America's youth; two million 4-H Club boys and girls in Japan being helped by the exchange students from America to understand scientific agriculture and balanced living - the symbol of the 4-H Club — the equal training of the head, heart, hands, and health;

COMMUNAL SYSTEM

In Israel where the farm people pool everything that they have, not as communists, but to share in a communal system of living to overcome the barren waste land and turn it into productivity by schemes which cannot be carried out individually;

In South America where corrupt governmental machines are busy trying to turn an agricultural country into an industrial domain. In the Argentine where there is nothing in common between the business men and the farmers;

15 TO 18 CHILDREN

In India where families of from 15 to 18 children are common and where, unlike the Christian religion, there are many faiths which encourage idleness instead of thrift and industry.

These were the problems he described and held up as a challenge to America and Americans. He said, "As informed people, we have a mission to bring information and not misinformation to these people." He also said that here, we are trained in our schools and colleges to work and think and harness the forces of nature to produce more abundant living.

"This faith in the ultimate good is spreading," Mr. Mitchell said; also that there is a new hope and a new faith. "Our stock is rising in many nations around the world," he concluded.

He was preceded on the program by an exchange professor from Thialand, Plevang Uraiponges, who described life in his country. He is spending a training period of one week at Tuskegee Institute.

The Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company, sponsors of the National Farm and Home Hour, provided a farm machinery display and a barbecue picnic for those in attendance following the program.

Other sponsors to the agents' national meeting were: The Alabama Power Company; The Kraft Cheese Company; The Gulf Refining Company and the Coco-Cola Bottling Company.

GUEST SPEAKER

Tuesday night at the annual banquet where Director P. O. Davis of the Alabama Extension Service was guest speaker, the agents were told that their job represents the highest form of education. He said it helps improve people in what they are doing.

Comparing Booker T. Washington's philosophy with the old maxim, "Civilization has always been a race between education and disaster." Mr. Davis said that Washington took a recently emancipated people and told them, "We shall prosper in proportion as we learn to glorify and dignity labor and put brains and skill into the common occupations of life."

Mr. Davis said that when Extension Work started fifty years ago, it was upon the impending disaster of the boll weevil. He urged the agents to face up to the challenge of the disaster facing free nations today by, first, maintaining an abundance; secondly, by producing while improving the soil for even greater production; thirdly, by fostering a prosperous agriculture with prosperous farm people; and, fourth, by helping build a stronger America.

IDEAL SETTING

In behalf of the association, T. H. Black, outgoing president, extended thanks to the Alabama County Agricultural and Home Demonstration Agent's Association; to L. C. Johnson, their president; to Henry B. Jackson, planning committee chairman, and to Tuskegee Institute for providing an ideal setting for the Third Annual Meeting of the Association.

Arkansas A. . and N. College, at Piune Bluff, Arkansas, is the site of the next year"s meeting. William Pierce, of that state, was elected president for the ensuing year.

Other officers elected to serve for the year ahead ar: Charles Burton, Mississippi, first vice president; B. D. Harrison, Louisiana, third vice president; Milton Dean, Mississippi secretary; D. P. Lilly, Okla., corresponding secretary; H. B. Jackson, Alabama, treasurer; L. S. Johnson, Alabama, parliamentarian. G. A. Newburn, Tennessee, chappalin; W. A. Scott, Alabama, sergeant-at-arms; T. H. Black, Oklahoma, historian, and J. C. Dunbar, Mississippi, public relations chairman.

During the session, the group was addressed by Dr. L. H. Foster, Dean L. A. Potts, J. W. Mitchell, national leader, Negro Extension Work; W. B. Hill, state leader, Alabama Extension Service; and members of the institutee faculty.

watchman, Thomas Broome, was killed by a rifle. Seymour was tried and convicted by the Georgia Supreme Court reversed the conviction on the grounds of improper evidence having been introduced.

His second conviction was upheld. Last June, Governor Talmadge granted him a 30-day reprieve for a sanity examination.

National Negro County Agents Meet In Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — Appearing at the closing session of the National Negro County Agricultural Agents Association, on Wednesday afternoon, Everett Mitchell, director of the network program — the National Farm and Home Hour, told 500 people at Tuskegee that they have a mission to spread the light of education to the many countries of the world who look to us for inspiration and technical assistance.

44 COUNTRIES

Speaking from the topice, "Men and Women with a Mission," he drew upon his recent experiences in visiting 44 countries around the world. He related countless human interest stories from Germany where he saw the human good being done by the several programs of organized assistance, the German children wanting to cultivate peace and friendship with America's youth; two million 4-H Club boys and girls in Japan being helped by the exchange students from America to understand scientific agriculture and balanced living - the symbol of the 4-H Club — the equal training of the head, heart, hands, and health;

COMMUNAL SYSTEM

In Israel where the farm people pool everything that they have, not as communists, but to share in a communal system of living to overcome the barren waste land and turn it into productivity by schemes which cannot be carried outi ndividually;

In South America where corrupt governmental machines are busy trying to turn an agricultural country into an industrial domain. In the Argentine where there is nothing in common between the business men and the farmers;

15 TO 18 CHILDREN

In India where families of from 15 to 18 children are common and where, unlike the Christian religion, there are many faiths which encourage idleness instead of thrift and industry.

These were the problems he described and held up as a challenge to America and Americans. He said, "As informed people, we have a mission to bring information and not misinformation to these people." He also said that, here, we are trained in our schools and colleges to work and think and harness the forces of nature to produce more abundant living.

"This faith in the ultimate good is spreading," Mr. Mitchell said; also that there is a new hope and a new faith. "Our stock is rising in many nations around the world," he concluded.

He was preceded on the program by an exchange professor from Thialand, Plevang Uraiponges, who described life in his country. He is spending a training period of one week at Tuskegee Institute.

The Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company, sponsors of the National Farm and Home Hour, provided a farm machinery display and a barbecue picnic for those in attendance following the program.

Other sponsors to the agents' national meeting were: The Alabama Power Company; The Kraft Cheese Company; The Gulf Refining Company and the Coco-Cola Bottling Company.

GUEST SPEAKER

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Mr. Davis said that when Extension Work started fifty years ago, it was upon the impending disaster of the boll weevil. He urged the agents to face up to the challenge of the disaster facing free nations today by, first, maintaining an abundance; secondly, by producing while improving the soil for even greater production; thirdly, by fostering a prosperous agriculture with prosperous farm people; and, fourth, by helping build a stronger America.

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Other officers elected to serve for the year ahead ar: Charles Burton Mississippi, first vice president; B. D. Harrison, Louisiana, third vice president; Mlton Dean, Mississippi secretary; D. P. Lilly, Okla., corresponding secretary; H. B. Jackson, Alabama, treasurer; L. S. Johnson, Alabama, parliamentarian. G. A. Newburn, Tennessee, chappalin; W. A. Scott, Alabama, sergeant-at-arms; T. H. Black, Oklahoma, historian, and J. C. Dunbar, Mississippi, public relations chairman.

Officers Elected

Race Farm Agents Meet at Tuskegee

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ARKANSAS A. M. and N. College, at Pine Bluff, Ark., is the site of the next year's meeting. William Pierce of that state, was elected president for the ensuing year.

Other officers elected to serve for the year ahead are Charles Burton, Mississippi, first vice president; B. D. Harrison, Louisiana, third vice president; Milton Dean, Mississippi, secretary; D. P. Lilly, Oklahoma, corresponding secretary; H. B. Jackson, Alabama, treasurer; L. C. Johnson, Alabama, parliamentarian; G. A. Newburn, Tennessee, chaplain; W. A. Scott, Alabama, sergeant-at-arms; T. H. Black, Oklahoma, historian, and J. C. Dunbar, Mississippi, public relations chairman.

National Negro County Agents Meet At 'Skegee; Arkansas Man Heads Group

State Press Little Rock, Arkansas

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Speaking from the topic, "Men and Women with a Mission," he drew upon his recent experiences in visiting 44 countries around the world. He related countless human interest stories from Germany where he saw the human good being done by the several programs of organized assistance. the German children wanting to cultivate peace and friendship with America's youth; two million 4-H club boys and girls in Japan being helped by the exchange students from America to understand scientific agriculture and balanced living - the symbol of the 4-H club - the equal training of the head, heart, hands and health.

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In India where families of from 15 to 18 children are common and where, unlike the Christian religion, there are many faiths which encourage idleness instead of a new faith. "Our stock is rising in many nations around the world," he concluded.

He was preceded on the program by an exchange professor from Thialand, Plevang Uraiponges, who described life in his country. He is spending a training period of one week at Tuskegee institute.

The Allis-Chalmers manufacturing company, sponsors of the National Farm and Home tour, provided a farm machinery display and a barbecue picnic for those in attendance following the program.

Other sponsors to the agents' national meeting were: The Alabama Power company; The Kraft Cheese company; The Gulf Refining company, and the Coca Cola company.

At the annual banquet where Director P. O. Davis of the Alabama extension service, was the guest speaker, the agents were told that their job represents the highest form of education. He said it helps improve people in what they are doing.

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Arkansas AM&N college, Pine Bluff is the site of the next year's meeting. W. M. Pierce, county agent of Union county, was elected president of the national association for '54 - 55.

Pierce, son of the late J. B. Pierce (a pionerr extension agent), is a native Virginian, has been affiliated with the extension service for 15 years and had the experience of working in three states during those years.

Other officers elected to serve for the year ahead are: Charles Burton, Miss., first vice president; L. D. Kennedy, second vice president; B. D. Harrison, La., third vice president. Milton Dean, Miss,, secretary; D. P. Lilly, Okla., corresponding secretary; H. B. Jackson, Ala., treasurer; L. C. Johnson, Ala., parliamentarian; G. A. Newburn, Tenn., chaplain; W. A. Scott, Ala., sergeant-at-arms. T. H. Black, Okla., historian, and J. C. Dunbar, Miss., public relations chairman.

During the session, the group was addressed by Dr. L. H. Foster, Dean L. A. Potts, J. W. Mitchell, national leader, Negro extension service; W. B. Hill, state leader, Alabama extension service and member of the Institute.

In the foto, Everett Mitchell is shown congratulating President-Elect W. M. Pierce of El Dorado. Reading from left to right, I. H. Black, outgoing president, Oklahoma; Mr. Mitchell, Chicago; Mr. Pierce and Mrs. Jackson, Planning committee chairman and host, Alabama.

NFA Award Winners Named At Wednesday Nite Session

Daily World P. 1 Atlanta, Ga
Thur. 9-30-54

The Wednesday evening session of the New Farmers of America Convention was highlighted by the presentation of awards to several NFA members. These cash awards of more than $13,000.00 are provided by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc. which is supported by cash donations from individuals, organizations, business and industrial concerns. Annually they are given in several phases of farm activities which the chapters sponsor.

Boys from the following states received the honors: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia.

H. O. SARGENT AWARD

Cicero Moore, Route 2, Tuskegee, Alabama was declared winner of the H. O. Sargent Award of $250. This sum is made annually to the most successful Negro farmer who is a former student of vocational agriculture and who has not been out of school for more than ten years. Moore's farming program was started as a father-son partnership, with the farming program of 55 acres of cotton, 60 acres of corn, 36 head of swine, 1200 broilers, 18 acres of peanuts, 2 acres of truck garden and 32 beef cattle. After the first year he entered the U. S. Army for three years.

During the past six years Moore with the help of his wife and three children has reduced the mortgage on his $29,360.00 farm to $6,000.00; remodeled the farm house, screened and painted the house inside and out; installed running water; wired the house for lights; landscaped the yard, rebuilt the barn; constructed a broiler house, a laying house and two farrowing houses; fenced the farm; terraced 125 acres; planted 70 acres of improved pasture; built a 3½ acre farm pond; planted 54,000 pine seedlings; pruned 14 acres of pine timber and constructed 1½ mile of farm road. Cicero, and his family take a very active part in the social and civic affair of his county.

Two sectional winners of $125 each were Lawrence Carter, Route 2, Zachary, La. and Elvin T. Artis, Route 1. Franklin, La.

STAR SUPERIOR FARMER

K. H. Malone, Jr., Huntsville, Texas was declared winner of the Star Superior Farmer Award, the highest award given by the National Organization and received a check for $225.

Young Malone is operating a dairy business that netted him last year $4,412.00. He and his wife has just purchased 180 acres so as to enlarge the dairy business. His dairy business was started as his supervised farming program while studying vocational agriculture.

Two sectional winners were William Latimore, Route 2, Uniontown, Alabama, and Ralph S. Boyd, Bracey, Virginia who were awarded $125.00 each. Other Superior Farmer winners who received $50.00 are:

Wilbur Gibson, Mt. Moriah Chapter, Route 3, Whigham, Georgia.

Albert L. Ballard, Jr., Route 3, Opelousas, Louisiana.

Archie Edwards, Jr., Route 3, Tyler, Texas.

Franklin D. Hunt, Route 1, Waelder, Texas.

Honorary Superior Farmer Degree was awarded to the following recognized leaders who have promoted the cause of farm youth.

1. D. G. P. Deyoe, Professor Agricultural Education, University of

FARM AND HOME ELECTRIFICATION

Joseph A. Smith, Jr., Zackary, Louisiana received the first place of $100.00 for his outstanding work in electrification. Two other boys received $50.00 each. They are Derry Voughn, Battlesboro, N. C. and Reddie Farte, Jr., Tuskegee, Ala. Young Smith has a shop at home and is making electricity do a large amount of the work on the farm.

SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT AWARD

Diamond Former, Jr., 16 years old, Geary, Oklahoma took first prize of $100.00 while the sectional honors of $50.00 each went to Willie Lee Moore, Route 3, Madison, Florida and Gerald R. Schench, Lowndale, North Carolina.

During the past year Young Former assisted his father in terracing 90 acres of land, contoured 60 acres grain, 3 waterways; built 10 dams and strip cropped 20 acres.

FARM AND HOME IMPROVEMENT AWARD

Robert L. Griffin, 18 years old Marlin, Texas won the $100.00 check. The two sectional awards of $50.00 each went to Alphonso L. Smith, Portland, Tennessee and Golden L. Thomas 16, Route 1, Pendleton, Virginia.

Griffin assisted his father in planning, building and decorating a nine room modern home.

2 Cumberland Pupils Given Cash Awards

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. p. 3
Sat. 10-30-54

CUMBERLAND, Va. — During a recent assembly program of the L. P. Jackson high school, Cumberland, Principal J. B. Pervall presented Henry Crump and Tolton Moses with checks amounting to 65 for being 1954-54 state winers in contest of the Virginia Association of New Farmers of America.

Tolton Moses's check amounted to $50 for being elected the star Modern Farmerof the 17 candidates elected to that degree by the State NFA Association of Virginia. Henry Crump was elected second place winner of the Farm and Home Improvement contest. His check amounted to $15.

THE MONEY for these awards was made possible through the courtesy of the Future Farmers of America Foundation which is commonly called the FFA Foundation. The FFA Foundation was organized in 1944 to provide an opportunity for business, industry, and iindividuals to co-operate in promoting programs of the FFA and the NFA last year the FFA Foundation set aside $12,880 for awards to NFA members in the 17 southern states and $130 300 for the FFA members.

Some of the companies that made this money available through the FFA Foundation include the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, First National Bank of Danville, General Electric Company, General Mills, New York Central Railroad, General Motors, Coporation, Ford Motor Company, Ralston Purina Company, Standard Oil Company and more than a hundred others.

Sussex County Farmers Win Fair Awards

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. p. 11
Sat. 11-6-54

WAVERLY, Va. — Several New Farmers Young Farmers and Veterans Farmers of Sussex county received awards from the exhibit at the Tidewater Fair at Suffolk, Virginia.

New Farmers of Americar receiving awards were Horace Jackson, second place, yellow hybrid corn; Thomas Spoons, first place, open pollinated, Virginia white Dent Corn; Franklin Turner third place in open pollinated Virginia White Dent corn; Horace Jackson, First place, Irish Cobblers potatoes; James Payton and Thomas Spoon, second place in soybeans; Leon Jackson and Sam Parker, first and second place with brown eggss.

* * *

CLARENCE Spencer and Donzell Luster had hogs in the fat Hog Show and Sale which sold for 19 1/2 cents and .20 cents per pound.

Young Farmers received awards as follows: first place, Sweepstakes yellow hybrid corn; R. S. Massenberg, second place yellow hybrid corn; Fred Hines first place cotton; John Hines second place, cotton, and Raymond Graves, second place with black eye peas.

Veteran Farmers receivin gawards were Abraham Bailey first place and sweepstake with white openpollinated White Dent Corn; Fletcher Nichols, second and Floyd Brown, third. with open pollinated White VirginiaDrent corn Reginal Blunt second place Nancy Hall sweet potatoes, and Abraham Bailey, third place, Irish Cobblers.

Agriculture instructors who assisted in selecting the exhibits were P. M. Morton and C. R. Alston.

Defender Chicago, Ill. p. 18

S. B. SIMMONS, assistant supervisor of vocational agriculture, North Carolina, is honored at testimonial dinner at Fayetteville State Teachers college for his 31 years of service to the state. The dinner was sponsored by charters of the New Farmers of America in cooperation with agricultural and educational leaders in the state. Simmons is one of the founders of New Farmers of America. In the photo Simmons shows some of the gifts he received to his wife (center) Naomi, and his 91-year-old mother, Mrs. J. A. Simmons.

Over 400 Register 1st Day; 17 States Represented

BY WILLIAM GORDON
Managing Editor, Atlanta Daily World

At the close of registration yesterday, over 400 young farmers had given their names at the Butler Street YMCA. By the first of October, Friday of this week, more than two thousand youngsters, coming from 17 Southern states, will have visited here in the interest of advanced American agriculture.

MEETING NOT NEW

The meeting of young farmers in Atlanta is not new. This occasion is the Twentieth National Convention of the New Farmers of America dedicated to the purpose of helping to train boys in vocational agriculture in public secondary schools. The organization operates under the provision of the National Vocational Education Acts.

VOLUNTEER MEMBERSIHP

The New Farmers organization is a non-political, non-profit farm youth group with volunteer membership.

A portion of the group arriving yesterday consisted of national officers and key people in training This group spent most of the day in training with advisers. Following their briefing period, these young farm boys will take complete charge of convention activities.

SPECIAL BANQUET

A top feature among today's activities will be a special banquet, 6 p. m. in the Sky Room of the City Auditorium honoring the young farmers. The banquet is sponsored by Sears-Roebuck and Co., J. C. Maynes, public relations director of Sears will be on hand to greet the youngsters. The banquet is a new feature recently added to the farmers' program. It will be attended only by delegates and the chorus of the New Farmers of America.

MAYOR HARTSFIELD

The kick-off session will begin at 7:30 p. m. at which time Mayor Hartsfield is scheduled to address the group.

W. T. Johnson of Greensboro, N. C., director of public relations looks forward to one of the most interesting sessions held during the past twenty years. Mr. Johnson, who has worked with the organization since its inception, says few organizations offer boys the opportunities they acquire through the New Farmers.

"The organization has helped to stimulate initiative among the boys."

$13,000 IN PRIZES

Mr. Johnson pointed to the financial aspect of the organization. He said that during this convention over $13,000 in prizes will be given away to deserving farm boys.

"As a result of this," Mr. Johnson added, "the average NFA youngster is able to develop and help improve his own living standards."

This group of farm boys work through the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc. The foundation annually provides on a nation-wide basis, prizes and financial awards to deserving members of the Future Farmers and the New Farmers of America who have achieved distinction in their supervised farming programs, scholarships, citizenship and rural leadership.

Such funds are supervised by a board of trustees of 15 members. Nine of these are state vocational agricultural leaders, elected at regional conferences to represent the various states. Six members are from the staff of the Agricult Education Service of the Offic Education, Department of Healt Education and Welfare.

Mr. Johnson indicated that the organization has made "tremendous growth during the past ten years."

The New Farmers organization constitutes 983 chapters. It boasts of a membership of over 38,000 youngsetrs, the largest group coming from Texas, with a membership of 5,973 and 178 chapters. Next is North Carolina with a membership of 5,910 and 132 chapters.

Thursday will be a significant day of the convention when the group observes "Georgia Day." Mr. Johnson says he expects over 1,200 to register, most of them from over the state. This will mark the fourth session of the convention and the farmers plan to attend the Southeastern Fair in the afternoon.

Among those in session during the convention are the following people:

NATIONAL N. F. A. OFFICERS

Francis N. Thompson, Croom Md., president; Gaston Gayne, Raywood, Texas, first vice-president; Victor Dunbar, Columbia, S. C.; Robert Simmons, Monroeville, Ala. secretary; Bobby Crain, Franklington La., treasurer; Richard Hatchell, Hartsville, S. S., reporter; D. C. Jones, Langston, Okla., adviser; J. R. Thomas, Petersburg, Va., executive secretary; S. B. Simmons, Greensboro, N. C., executive treasurer; W. T. Spanton, Washington, D. C., administrative adviser; W. N. Elam, Washington, D. C., administrative secretary

Old Dominion Youth Wins Six-State Farm Award

SOUTH HILL, Va. — During the national convention of New Farmers of America held in Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 2 - Oct. 1, honors to the Future Farmers of America Foundation, praised Ralph Saunders Boyd for the job he had done in developing his supervised farming program for the past six years and pronounced him Star Superior Farmer for the Washington Section which includes North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, West Virginia, Delaware and Virginia. For this accomplishment he was awarded a check for $175.

The awards are provided by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., which is supported by cash donations from individuals, organizations, business, and industrial concerns. The New Farmers of America is the national organization of Negro farm boys studying vocational agriculture in the public schools.

RALPH ENROLLED in the departmen tof vocational agriculture in the fall of 1948. He says that when he started farming, there was little or no facilities available on the home farm. His brothers and sisters left home during the war. His father became an invalid and he was too young to take over the management of the farm. Hence, the farm became very eroded, the buildings began to deteriorate badly and the equipment was beyond repair.

The first year he rented his uncle's team and tools. He had good success with his supervised farming program that year and was financially able to purchase livestock and some small equipment. In subsequent years, he increased his supervised farming program. In 1952-53, he purchased a tractor and equipment. Since that time, he has been successful in getting pastures established and his land in a high state of production.

* * *

RALPH GRADUATED from high school in 1951. However ,he has maintained his membership in the NFA and the department of vocational agriculture ntinously.

...ompanying Ralph to Atlan... David Moseley, state secretary and president of local chapter; Carl A. Hayes, State winner of public speaking contest; and adviser, E. L. Morse.

RALPH S. BOYD
Superior Farmer

Give $13,000 in prizes at New Farmers parley

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-16-54
6 18
11 17

ATLANTA — Presentation of awards to members on Wednesday highlighted the 20th national convention of the New Farmers of America held here Sept. 27-Oct. 1.

These cash awards of more than $13,000 are provided by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc. which is supported by cash donations from individuals, organizations, business and industrial concerns and are given in several phases of farm activities which the chapters sponsor.

Boys from the following states received the honors: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louhoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia.

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CICERO MOORE, Route 2, Tuskegee, Ala., was declared winner of the H. O. Sargent award of $250. This award is made annually to the most successful colored farmer who is a former student of vocational agriculture and who has not been out of school for more than 10 years.

Mr. Moore's farming program began a father-son partnership, with 55 acres of cotton, 60 acres of corn, 36 head of swine, 1,200 broilers, 18 acres of peanuts, 2 acres of truck garden and 32 beef cattle.

After the first year he entered the U. S. Army for three years.

During the past six years Mr. Moore, with the help of his wife and three children, has reduced the mortgage on his $29,360 farm to $6,000.00; remodeled the farm house, screened and painted it inside and out.

— o O o —

HE ALSO HAS installed running water, wired the house for lights landscaped the yard, rebuilt the barn, constructed a broiler house, a laying house and two farrowing houses; fenced the farm and terraced 125 acres.

He has built an 8-acre farm pond, planted 54,000 pine seedlings, pruned 14 acres of pine timber and constructed 1½ miles of farm road. He and his family take a very active part in the social and civic affairs of his county.

Sectional winners of $125 each were Lawrence Carter, Route 2, Zachary, La., and Elvin T. Artis, Route 1. Franklin, La. K. H. Malone Jr., Huntsville, Texas, won the Star Superior Farmer award, highest given by the national organization, and a check for $225.

Young Malone is operating a dairy business that netted him last year $4,412. He and his wife have purchased 180 acres so as to enlarge the business that was begun as his supervised farming program while studying vocational agriculture.

— o O o —

OTHER SECTIONAL winners were William Latimore, Route 2, Uniontown, Ala., and Ralph S. Boyd, Bracey, Va. They were awarded $125 each. Other Superior Farmer winners who received $50 are:

Wilbur Gibson, Route 3, Whigham, Ga.; Albert L. Ballard Jr., Route 3, Opelousas, La.; Archie Edwards Jr., Route 3, Tyler, Texas; Franklin D. Hunt, Route 1, Waelder, Texas.

Honorary Superior Farmer degree was awarded to the following recognized leaders who have promoted the cause of farm youth.

Dr. G. P. Deyoe, Urbana, Ill.; Dr. E. B. Evans, Prairie View, Texas; Dr. J. W. Mitchell, Washington; W. T. Schnatharst, Chicago; Dr. C. V. Troup, Fort Valley, Ga.; John H. Wheeler, Durham, N.C.;

McKinley Wilson, Fort Valley, Ga.; W. R. Wynder, Delaware State College, Dover, Del.; T. G. Walters, Atlanta, and J. R. Powell, Prairie View State University, Prairie View, Texas.

Hughey D. Matthews, Route 1, Thorton, Ariz., national winner of the Farm Mechanics award, received a check for $100. Young Matthews as a student of vocational agriculture sold his father on the value of buying modern machinery for the farm.

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SECTIONAL FARM Mechanics winners who received $50 each are Charlie Cook, Route 3, Madison, Fla., and Thomas C. Carpenter, Route 1, Twymans Mills, Va.

Edward Magee, Franklenton, La., won the national Dairy Farmer award and received a check for $100. His interest in a herd of 25 animals is valued at $3,750. Sectional winners are John L. Marshall, Founsdale, Ala., and William Scott, Route 1, Amelia, Va., also received $50 each.

Joseph A. Smith Jr., Zackary, La., received the first prize of $100 for his outstanding work in electrification. Two other boys received $50 each. They are Derry Voughn, Battlesboro, N.C., and Reddie Farte Jr., Tuskegee, Ala.

— o O o —

DIAMOND FORMER Jr., 16, Geary, Okla., took first prize of $100 for soil and water management while sectional honors of $50 each went to Willie L. Moore, Route 3, Madison, Fla., and Gerald R. Schench, Lowndale, N.C.

Robert L. Griffin, 18, Marlin, Texas, won the $100 check for farm home improvements, while sectional awards of $50 each went to Alphonso L. Smith, Portland, Tenn., and Golden L. Thomas, 16, Route 1, Pendleton

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
10-16-54
R 18

WINNER AT NFA CONVENTION — Cicero Moore, awarded the $250 H. O. Sargent award, chats with son, Terry (on tractor), while William waits on delivery stand as they ready for a day of threshing.

12 Georgia Negro Students Win NFA Pasture Awards

Constitution State News Service

FORT VALLEY, June 3—For building better pastures, 12 Negro vocational agriculture students have been named to receive winter grazing awards of the New Farmers of America.

Winners in the state's six NFA federations were chosen from 238 boys in 60 high schools who seeded 490 acres to temporary pastures last fall, and became eligible for the awards offered by the Georgia Power Co. in cooperation with the State Department of Education.

Each federation winner will get $25 and the runner-up $12.50, with an additional $25 going to the top individual in the state. There are also three awards for vo-ag teachers who are advisers of NFA chapters judged to be doing the best collective job of pasture improvement.

Award winners in each federation are:

Alva Tabor federation—O. C. Chaney, Vienna H & I, and Mitchell Burton, Dunbar junior high, Sasser. Booker T. Washington federation—Benjamin Cooney, Jr., New Union high, Boston; and Willie J. Whitehead, Moultrie high. H. A. Hunt federation—Alvin Bradley, Grantville training school; and Aubrey Phillips, Villa Rica high.

Hu - Banks - Bond federation — William George Jr., Candler county training school, Metter; and William A. Willie, Dickerson training school, Vidalia. George W. Carver federation—Willie J. Smith, Jefferson county training school, Louisville; and Ulysses Banks, Millville junior high, Staley-Roberts federation—Frank Oglesby, Bowman high; and Andrew Jackson, Pearl Street high, Madison.

Teachers who will receive the chapter awards are Roscoe Keaton, Vienna H & I, $50; T. L. Washington, New Union School, Boston, $30; and T. R. Maxwell, Dickerson training school, Vidalia, $20.

PRESIDENT MEETS THE NEW FARMERS — WASHINGTON, D. C. — President Eisenhower seems to be enjoying himself as he receives a delegation of officials of the New Farmers of America at the White House. In center is Francis N. Thompson, of Croom, Mo., National President of the organization. At right: Gaston Cagne, first vice president. — (Photo by Jack Lartz)

1,200 Negro Farm Boys To Meet Here

More than 1,200 Negro farm boys from 17 states are expected to attend the 20th annual New Farmers of America convention here Sept. 28-Oct. 1.

National and sectional winners in livestock judging, farm mechanics, farm electrification, dairy farming and soil and water management will receive about $13,000 in prizes during the convention.

Sessions will be held at the Municipal Auditorium.

THE STAR Superior Farmer, the organization's most outstanding member, will be selected. Three young adult farmers who are former vocational agriculture students will get H. O. Sargent awards.

The NFA is the national organization of Negro vocational agriculture students. Its membership of 38,000 is in 17 Southeastern states.

NFA livestock judging teams from 16 states will compete at the Southeastern Fair Sept. 30. A chorus of 75 boys will sing Negro spirituals during the convention.

Headed by President Francis N. Thompson of Croom, Md., the organization has as its national treasurer Robert Rice of Sylvester.

THE STUDENT and adult officers of the New Farmers of America recently met in the office of W. T. Spanton, Chief, Agricultural Education Branch, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, D. C., to complete plans for their annual national convention which will be held in the Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta, Ga., from September 28 to October 1.

Standing, left to right, are Frances Thompson, Croom, Md., national president; Gaston Gagne, Raywood, Texas, and Victor Dunbar, Columbia, N. C., both vice presidents; Bobby Crain, Franklinton, La.; secretary; and Richard Hatchel, Hartsville, S. C., reporter. Seated are Robert Simmons, Monroeville, Ala., vice president; S. B. Simmons, Greensboro, N. C., executive treasurer; Dr. Spanton; J. R. Thomas, Petersburg, Va., executive secretary; and W. N. Elam of the Office of Education staff.

New Farmers of America is a national organization of students of vocational agriculture in the public high schools. It enrolls over 38,000 farm boys.

New Farmers Of America To Begin Annual Meet Mon.

The National Organization known as the New Farmers of America, will begin it's 20th Annual Conference in Atlanta, Monday, September 27th.

Registration and headquarters will be at the Butler Street YMCA and sessions will be held at the City Auditorium. Mr. J. R. Thomas of Virginia State College is the National Executive Secretary.

A local committee headed by Charles Gideons, principal of Carver Vocational School, Extension Division, will have charge of entertainment for the adult sponsors and youths attending the conference. High schools of the city serving as hosts include Booker T. Washington, Carver Vocational, David T. Howard, Turner High, Price High and East Point High Schools and they are assisting in the entertainment under the direction of Mr. Gideons. Miss Eleanor Bradley of Turner High is chairman of the "Get Acquainted Social for Leaders," Monday night at the Butler Street YMCA. Miss Elouise Evans, also of Turner High is chairman of the Matinee Dance scheduled for Thursday, September 30th from 4 to 6 in the City auditorium.

More than 300 young ladies from all of the high schools will be the special guests of the boys for this major social event. Miss M. Evelyn Howard is chairman of the evening social for the Adult Leaders which this year will be held at the Waluhaje Hotel also on Thursday evening.

BUTLER STREET YMCA HEADQUARTERS FOR GROUP

The Butler Street YMCA for the 6th consecutive year, will again act as headquarters for the hundreds of young people and adult sponsors. Morehouse, and Clark Colleges will house some of the delegates. In addition, a number of private homes, particularly in the Northeast section have opened their doors to the delegates and their sponsors.

Atlanta is again going all out to welcome and to make feel at home these young people who, through the years, have made such a splendid impression on the community.

New Farmers Of America Meet In 20th Convention

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—More than 1,200 Negro farm boys from 17 states are attending the 20th Annual National Convention of the New Farmers of America in Atlanta's Municipal Auditorium.

The New Farmers of America is the national organization for Negro students of vocational agriculture in the public schools which operates under the provision of the National Vocational Education Acts. It is an educational, non-political, non-profit, farm youth organization of voluntary membership, designed to develop agricultural leadership, character, thrift, cooperation, citizenship and patriotism.

National officers presiding at the convention ore:

Frances N. Thompson, Croom, Md., president; Gaston Gagne jr., Raywood, Texas, first vice president; Victor Dunbar, Columbia, N. C., second vice president; Robert L. Simmons, Franklinton, La., secretary; Robert Rice, Sylvester, Ga., treasurer, and Richard Hatchel, aHrtsville, S. C., reporter.

The adult officers who will assist the boys in conducting the affairs of the convention are: D. C. Jones, national adviser, Langston university, Langston, Okla.; J. R. Thomas, national executive secretary, Virginia State college, Petersburg, Va.; S. B. Simmons, national executive treasurer, A. & T. college, Greensboro, N. C., and W. N. Elam, national administrative secretary, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.

The NFA national headquarters is maintained in the Africultural Education Branch of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Office of Education, Washington, D. C. The NFA has a local chapter in almost every high school that has a department of vocational agriculture. The organization has at present 38,026 active members in 17 states.

The major purpose of the NFA organization is to help farm boys better prepare themselves to become successful farmers.

New Homemakers Group Sets Tuskegee Meeting

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., April 10—The Alabama Association of New Homemakers of America will hold its annual state meeting at Tuskegee Institute April 30. Some highlights of the meeting will be a pageant depicting the progress of the organization, presentation of state project, and varied recreational activities. Mrs. Bettye Steele Turner is NHA State Advisor, Alabama Association.

About New York

Time Stands Still for Farmer in the Bronx Who Raises Chickens and Vegetables

By EDITH EVANS ASBURY

FOR most people, to have a little farm of one's own and to live in the city involve long train rides on week-ends or commuting. Not so for George Morrison.

Mr. Morrison, 67-year-old New Yorker who came here in 1914 from High Point, N. C., has a chicken farm at 171st Street and the Harlem River, in the Bronx, just opposite Washington Heights. He raises the same crops he raised in North Carolina, and lives just about as he did there. He cooks on a coal stove, reads by kerosene lamp light and dips his water from a bucket kept on the kitchen table.

Mr. Morrison grew fond of the location twenty-seven years ago, while working at a near-by coal yard. The yard went out of business, but Mr. Morrison, homesick for rural life, decided to stay on and try to farm on what was then a dump.

"I've got squatter's claims," he says. "Nobody's told me to go away so far, so I don't reckon they will now."

Today Mr. Morrison's farm is a well-kept place with thriving peach trees, an arbor loaded with grapes, neat cement walks and tidy whitewashed brick borders. Passers-by, afoot or in automobiles, always are startled when they catch a glimpse of the farm tucked under a traffic bridge near the Washington Bridge which spans the Harlem River a few blocks north of the Polo Grounds.

Equally startling is a small, hand-lettered sign, "Chickens and Fresh Eggs for Sale" hoisted over the door of the tiny farmhouse.

"I'm going to make a bigger sign to put up when they finish that Thruway," said Mr. Morrison, nodding toward the bulldozers and cranes at work on the other side of the near-by New York Central Railroad tracks.

The land Mr. Morrison cultivates is across the tracks, and one of bulldozers grazed it recently, destroying his peanut plants.

"I spoke to the man, and asked him to be careful, because I've still got some pumpkins and squash coming along," Mr. Morrison said. "He promised to watch out for them in the future."

It is no wonder the bulldozer operator failed to see Mr. Morrison's crops. Thickly planted with corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, beets, collard greens, watermelons and cantaloupe, the rectangular plot is not too noticeable among the high weeds and undergrowth bordering the railroad tracks.

No telling how many thousands of passengers on the Twentieth Century or the Empire State Express or commuters bound for their farms in Westchester or Connecticut have ridden by without seeing Mr. Morrison's edging the tracks.

A sizable crop, which Mr. Morrison sells to some regular customers in the big apartment buildings massed atop the hill, on Undercliff Avenue, is yielded by the plot.

This year the five peach trees around Mr. Morrison's house produced eight bushels of peaches "some as big as your fist," he said proudly. He planted them as saplings, for which he paid $2 or $3. The soil in which they grow he had brought, in a wheelbarrow, from a place a mile away. It took him years to build the soil to a depth of three feet, sufficient to nourish the trees.

The eight-foot-long grape arbor is a cool resting place as well as a source of income, and he has two chairs under it. It already has produced a bushel of grapes this year, and still is heavy with fruit.

Two and a half to three dozen eggs a day are provided by Mr. Morrison's flock of seventy hens and roosters. They roost in a little house Mr. Morrison built and occupied while he was constructing the one he now livs in. Wire screen flooring protects the baby chicks from rats, always rampant along a waterfront, and an old-fashioned pot-bellied coal stove keeps the building warm.

"People passing by come in and just can't believe there's a chicken farm here in the middle of the city," Mr. Morrison, a bent, but sturdy man, said.

"I won a $50 bet once that this wasn't here. Met a man at a friend's house, he said where do you live, I said I've got a chickn farm at 171st Street and Harlem River, he said that's impossible. He made the bet, and brought me here in a cab. He was dumbfounded."

"I grew up on a farm and I'd be lost without chickens," he remarked, standing in the middle of his yard.

"That's Jerry over there," he pointed to a Rhode Island Red rooster. "That's Buddy and Sam," he indicated two black and white Plymouth Rocks. "And there's Annie and Lucy and Mary. They all know me," he chuckled.

The chickens, apparently recognizing their names, began to crow and cluck, sounding a clamor that mingled strangely with the noise of traffic on the bridge above, a train roaring past and a tugboat chugging by.

Meyer Berger, who regularly writes "About New York," is on vacation.

1b 1954

NORTH CAROLINA

Group Has Own Outlet For Members

Fully-Stocked Store Now In Service; It Is Worth $20,000

SUMTER, S. C. — A $20,000 farm supply co-operative has been launched in Sumter, by the colored farmers of Sumter county, reports E. N. Williams, state supervisor of Negro agricultural extension work in South Carolina.

The co-op opened its doors recently in a new 45 by 65 foot concrete block building chock full of farm tools and supplies, home appliances, groceries, and members-grown feeds, fruits and vegetables, says Mr. Williams.

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MANAGER H. C. Quattlebaum, a cotton and tobacco farmer, estimates that the association will do close to $50,000 worth of business its first year. He expects most of this volume to come in the fall when farmers are buying implements and home appliances and in the spring when they are getting in their fertilizer.

The co-op got started with only 13 members seven years ago when County Agent Arthur Sanders helped them organize it as a sponsoring agency for the county fair. The group was so successful with the fair that its member stuck together and started buying their fertilizer co-operatively. Name of the organization is Progressive Farmers Co-op.

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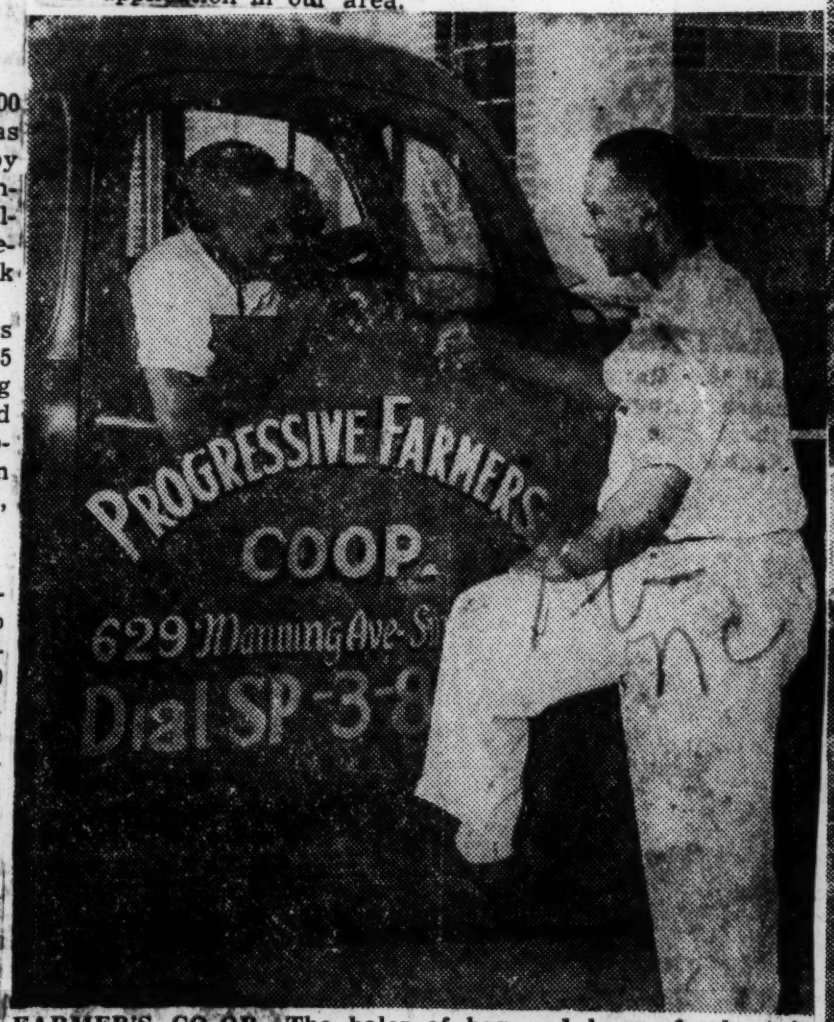
TODAY, THERE are an even 100 members who own from one to one hundred shares of stock valued at $5 each. Total stock purchases is estimated at $15,000. However, when they made plans to build the store, they obtained a loan from their Columbia Bank for Co-operatives so as not to dig too deeply into their reserve.

Hubert Sanders, president of the co-op, says it provides an excellent outlet for the farmer-members' surplus hay, grain fruits and vegetables.

"We are observing this pioneer effort closely," says Mr. Williams. "It seems to offer an approach which may have wide application in our area."



FARMER'S CO-OP—The bales of hay and bags of wheat in top photo had just been unloaded at the recently opened Progressive Farmers Co-op in Sumter, S. C. Both were grown locally by members of the cooperative. Manager H. C. Quattlebaum, center, is examining the wheat. Looking on are Clyde Conyers, left, a member of the co-op board; and Waymon Johnson, assistant state supervisor of agricultural extension work in South Carolina. The co-op handles everything from chewing tobacco to home freezers and automobile tires.

The cooperative makes deliveries in its own truck. In bottom photo Manager H. C. Quattlebaum leans out of the truck to talk with assistant state supervisor Johnson. The co-op building in background measures 45 by 65 feet. (USDA Photo)

SAYS IRRIGATION IS A 'MUST'—During the long dry spell which was finally broken by Hurricane Hazel, W. W. Smith of Knightdale, Route 1, kept his pastures in good condition by irrigating frequently. He also has used the system on tobacco, sweet corn, and garden crops. Smith, who also raises beef cattle, says irrigation is a "must" on his farm. (Photo by John Mattox, Wendell.)

Cotton Talk

Farmer Has Bumper Crop; Acreage Small

RALEIGH, N. C. — (ANP) — Julius Dabiel, Williamston, believes that the steps he followed with his cotton this year paid off. He harvested 2,556 pounds of cotton from 3.1 acres.

County Agent R. McK. Edwards reports that Daniel planted his cotton in April, using 400 pounds of 5-10-10. At the time of chopping, he was urged to leave at least three plants per foot of row. That was somewhat thicker than he generally left his cotton, but Daniel said he would try it this year; he wanted to make at least three bales.

The cotton was sidedressed with 200 pounds of 19-6-14 per acre. In early June, the boll weevils began to appear, so treatment for control was started. In July, the cotton had a heavy growth making poisoning difficult with the type of equipment Daniel had. Weevil infestation was increasing, so better equipment was secured; eight applications of texophine was used.

Total cost of spray material was $31.40. Daniel feels that the poisoning and extra sidedressing paid off. Instead of 1,500 pounds of lint he was expecting, he harvested 2,556 pounds.

"This is the best cotton crop I have ever male," says Daniel, "and next year I'll try tc do better." He plans to follow with peanuts behind his cotton, hoping to reap more benefits from the extra potash used this year

Daniel's yield of over 800 pounds of lint cotton per acre is twice the county's average.

Soil Testing Earns More For N.C. Farmer

RALEIGH — (ANP) - Soil testing meant double savings for Cleveland Gore, farmer of Fayetteville, Route 5.

By soil testing, he figures that he made money with increased quality and production, and at the same time spent less for fertilizer.

Last fall, Gore tested his tobacco soil and followed recommendations calling for the use of 4-8-10 fertilizer at a rate of 300 pounds per acre less than the 3-9-6 fertilizer he used the previous year.

From increased quality and production he expects to net at least 10 per cent more. In addition, he saves several dollars per acre through the lower rate of application made possible by using the correct fertilizer.

County Agent B. T. McNeil says that other farmers, who are turning to soil testing with increasing frequency, report the same results.

AGENT TELLS HOW HE DID IT:

Monroe farmer Tarheelia cotton-growing champion

RALEIGH, N.C. (ANP) — North Carolina's 1953 cotton production champion, Robert Kilgo, sharecropper Monroe, turned the trick by following the best recommended practices, according to S. T. Lloyd, county agent

Mr. Kilgo won the $800 first prize offered by the Nortn Carolina Cotton Seed Crushers association in competition with 426 other Tar Heel cotton farmers.

His five - acre yield was 5.675 pounds of lint cotton, with an average yield of 1,135 per acre In the fall of 1952, Kilgo turned under a heavy crop of lespedeza, said the county agent. The field had been in lespedeza about three years.

800 Pounds Of Fertilizer

Last spring the field was plowed and put in excellent condition for seeding cotton. Then 400 pounds of 2-12-12 fertilizer was drilled into the soil, followed by 400 pounds of 4-10-6 in the row under the cotton at planting time.

The new coker 100 - wilt resistant seed cotton was used. No top - dressing was applied.

Mr. Lloyd says one of the biggest reasons for Mr. Kilgo's success was his persistence in carrying out a complete boll weevil control program. Other insects were also controlled. In all Mr. Kilgo put on 10 applications of insecticide.

ficials of the organizations argues that an increase in professional workers is necessary now to meet current demands.

Want 4-H Support

Other resolutions adopted included:

Unqualified support for the 4-H Club Foundation camp drive to reach its goal of $52,000 for the completion of the youth camp at Hammocks Beach in Onslow County; a request of A and T College to seek legislative appropriation of funds for the expansion and operation of the Farmers and Homemakers Conference and the Rural Life Institute for Ministers, (both organizations met here simultaneously)

Direct cooperation with the North Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers in procuring improved educational facilities in rural areas and directed a letter of thanks to Dr. Clarence Poe, Raleigh, for his financial support to the "County of the Year Award" program with special reference to colored families.

1500 Attend

More than 1500 persons registered for the Farmers and Homemakers Conference. Another 50-odd pastors of churches in small towns in the state were on hand and the rural minister are so interlaced that it was quite appropriate that the two groups should meet together.

Farm Women Praised

Jeter paid special tribute to farm women when he said, "The greatest single contribution to farm progress in North Carolina has come from the ambition and zeal those women on the farms." He stated that the sacrifice to hold familes together, in developing stronger churches and schools have often been the difference in success and utter failure on the farms.

Mrs. DeShazo gave praise to the virtues of rural life. She stated, "The basic concepts of the American democracy are best illustrated in the lives of America's farm population."

Other speakers and demonstrators appearing before the farm group included Dr. Pauline E. Kenney, Woman's College, Greensboro; Miss Virginia Moore home economist, with a national meat packing firm; Mrs Grace J. Knight, Winston-Salem, home economist with a national milk processor; Miss Pauline E. Gordon, housing an house furnishing specialist and Miss Rita Dubois, food nutrition specialist, both of the N.C. Extension Service at Ralegh.

Kural People Publish Book

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.— A 175 page book on the progress of Negroes of Forsyth County, N. C. during the past 10 years has been published by the rural colored people of the county, reports R. E. Jones, Negro State agent of the North Carolina Extension Service.

The county's 21 Negro home demonstration clubs, under the leadership of their home agent, Mrs. Annie J. Johnson, took the lead in publishing the book. Proceeds from the sale of the work will go toward equipping a proposed Negro Library. Negroes make up about a sixth of the county's 75,410 population.

FATHER OF 17 CHILDREN GROWS GOOD COTTON—Jake Harris, Wendell, Route 2, harvested three bales of cotton on 3½ acres—much better than the State average. Because of drought early in the season, he had to plant the crop twice to get a good stand. He also spra the crop three times, but boll weevils still caus damage. Although Harris looks much you years old and is the father of 17 children children live with him now; he does mos himself. (Photo by John Mattox, Wende

Homemakers in 32nd annual conference

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The State Conference of Farmers and Homemakers in its thirty-second annual meeting held here at A and T College, June 6-9 adopted resolution calling for additional personnel to carry on agricultural education work in North Carolina.

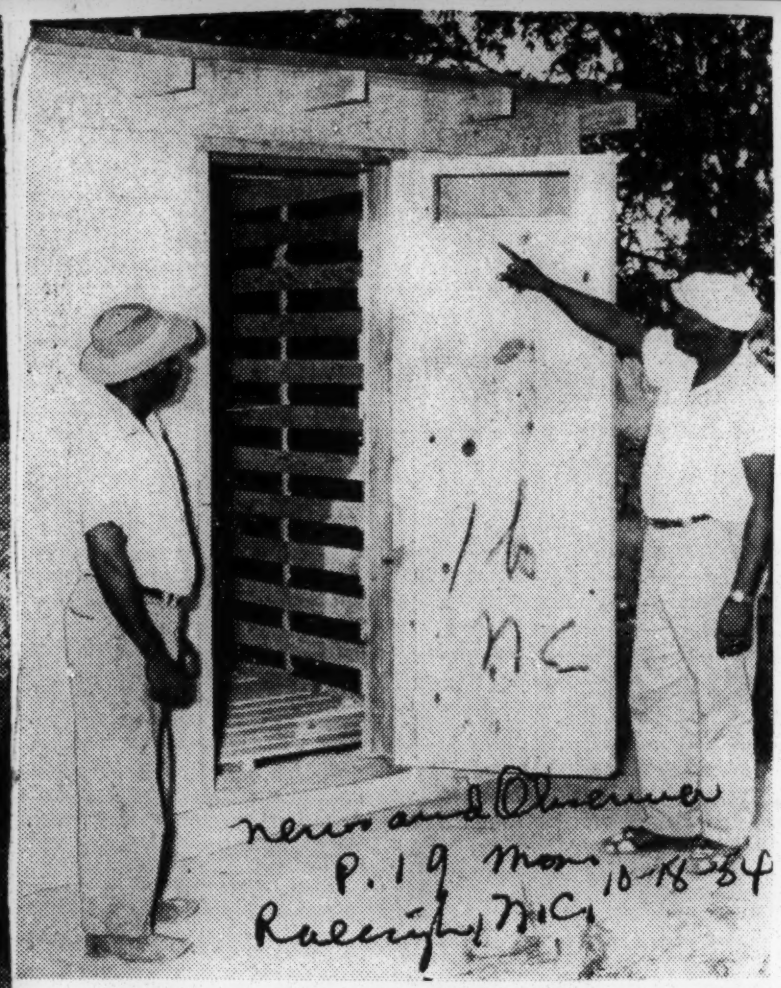
The group voted that a petition be directed to D. S. Weaver, Raleigh, director, N.C. Extension Service and to the State Budget Commission requesting that additional funds be provided for the appointment of 43 assistant county agents and a like number of assistant home agents. The statement set forth the of-

for the first of a proposed annual Rural Life Institute for Ministers, sponsored by the college.

The two groups met in several joint sessions during the four-day meets. At the mid-day sessions on Wednesday and Thursday, principal speakers were Dr. F. H. Jeter, Eytension Editor, N.C. State College, Raleigh Mrs. Catherine DeShazo, Tappahannock, Va., president, Associated Women of American Farm Bureau and Dr. F. D. Bluford, president, A and T College who welcomed the group to the campus and city.

Dr. Bluford told the audience that the problems of the farmer

FARM IDEAS EXCHANGE — The ladies attending the thirty-second annual State Conference of Farmers and Homemakers last week at A & T College, Greensboro, N. C., received much from exchanging ideas with each other. Passing out suggestions during a refreshment break are from left to right: Mrs. Ruth Marie Stancell, Conway; Mrs. Bettie Walden, Garysburg; and Mrs. Marion Watson, Clayton.



News and Observer
P. 19 Mon. 10-18-54
Raleigh, N.C.

A FIRST IN STORAGE—Hardy Cobbs (left) is one of the first two Negro farmers in Greene County to build the new, home-sized sweet potato curing house. The other was Theodore Dunn, not pictured. Negro Farm Agent A. L. Jones points to a weather-stripping need. These houses, which are being promoted by Nickels for Know-How Specialist T. W. Flowers and the Agricultural Extension Service, could save North Carolina farmers $1¼ million a year—an amount they lose because of improper storage. The house will store and cure an adequate supply of sweet potatoes for the average family, with some left over for sale.

From The Old To The New - What A Difference!

Insomnia Sat. 1-2-54 Houston, Texas P. 16

1st Okla

The Pictures of the Old and New Dwelling on the 160-acre farm of William L. Starks, Watonga, Oklahoma. A farm housing loan was made recently to Mr. Starks for $8,000 by the Farmers Home Administration of which $6,593 was for the dwelling and $407 for an automatic electric water supply. The new stucco farm home has a concrete foundation, asphalt shingle roof, and hardwood floors. Modern in every respect, it has a living room with dining area, kitchen, two bedrooms, bath, closets, ventilated food storage pantry, front and rear porches. The house is wired for electricity, has natural gas, a 30-gallon hot water heater, and floor furnace. The bathroom and kitchen sinks are connected to an individual sewage disposal system. A newly drilled well is the source of supply for the pressure water system. The pumping equipment and pressure tank are housed in a concrete block pump house. Water distribution is to the dwelling, yard, outbuilding, and garden. Loans like the one Mr. Starks received are made possible as a result of the Housing Act of 1949. The farm housing credit provisions of the Act are administered by the Farmers Home Administration and offer direct Government loans to farm owners who have no other way of financing needed improvements, including remodeling, repairing or new construction.

1b 1954

PIEDMONT DISTRICT DAIRY SHOW (ALABAMA)

In senior, junior divisions—

Talladega entries take top honors at annual Piedmont District Dairy Show

DADEVILLE, Ala., Oct. 16—Talladega County entries took top honors in both the junior and senior divisions of the eighth annual Piedmont District Dairy Show for Negro adult and youth groups held at Dadeville this past week.

Frank Oden, adult farmer of Talladega, won senior champion honors showing a 6-year-old Jersey cow, and went onto top the 116 entries for grand champion honors. Another 2-year-old Jersey, shown by Carol Frazier of Talladega, won junior champion honors, and was later named reserve champion of the show. Besides winning these two top places, Talladega came off with the first place exhibit of six animals. Elmore County's exhibit placed second in the county class.

Competition was keen in the artificially-sired class with Odessa Norris, a Tallapoosa County 4-H'er of Waverly Rt. 3, edging Bobby Jacobs, a Talladega 4-H'er of Eastaboga Rt. 1. Two more artificially-sired calves, entered by Wilmer Johnson of Graham Rt. 1, Randolph County, 4-H'er, finished in the premium money.

IN THE JUDGING class, Tallapoosa's team topped the 4-H division. Members making up the team were Irby Sands, Lovell Godfrey, and Wilbur Sparks. The Lee County Training School team of Auburn was winner in the NFA judging division. Members were James Rowell, Rufus Lewis, and Arthur Cord.

Joseph Marable of Roanoke, a Randolph County 4-H'er, stood out over the entire field in showmanship. Showing his well-trained entry, young Marable was favorite of the crowd as well as the judges from start to finish. Others winning cash awards in showmanship were Bobby Jacobs of Eastaboga Rt. 1, Talladega County, 4-H; Irby Sands of Waverly Rt. 2, Tallapoosa, 4-H, and James Lacey of Wetumpka Rt. 1, Elmore County, NFA.

Assistant Extension Dairymen Oscar D. Crosby of Auburn judged all classes in the show. He was assisted by Fred Turner, fieldman, Artificial Breeders Assn. and American Breeders Service, Auburn. Both men found the show and activities "surprisingly better than expected." And Crosby told the youth groups, "You have done a good job of training, fitting and showing your animals."

EXTENSION AND VOCATIONAL Agriculture staff members of Tuskegee Institute, headed by W. B. Hill, state leader and A. Floyd, superviser, assisted county workers in conducting the annual event. Counties represented were Clay, Chambers, Coosa, Elmore, Lee, Macon, Talladega, Tallapoosa, and Randolph. County agents and vocational agriculture teachers headed their respective groups and units.

The nine participating counties entered an average of 12 animals each. Judged according to the Danish system, the 116 animals fell in groups as follows: Blue or top quality entries, 17, red—48, and white—51. Premium money averaged $3 per point giving white animals one point or $3 each. Red animals received $6 and blues $9. Premium money and other awards received by participants came to approximately $1400.

The annual event is sponsored by business firms and organizations throughout the nine counties represented and the Agriculture Center Board of the State Department of Agriculture and Industries. The API Extension Service and the State Department of Vocational Agriculture cooperate in conducting the activities.

TOP PLACINGS by classes and lots were as follows:

Class 2, lot 1—Carol Frazier, Talladega County, 4-H, and James Lacey, Wetumpka Rt. 1, Elmore County, NFA.

Class 2, lot 2—Gullie Mae Hill, Camp Hill Rt. 2, Tallapoosa, 4-H, and Donald Slaughter, Goodwater Rt. 1, Clay County, NFA.

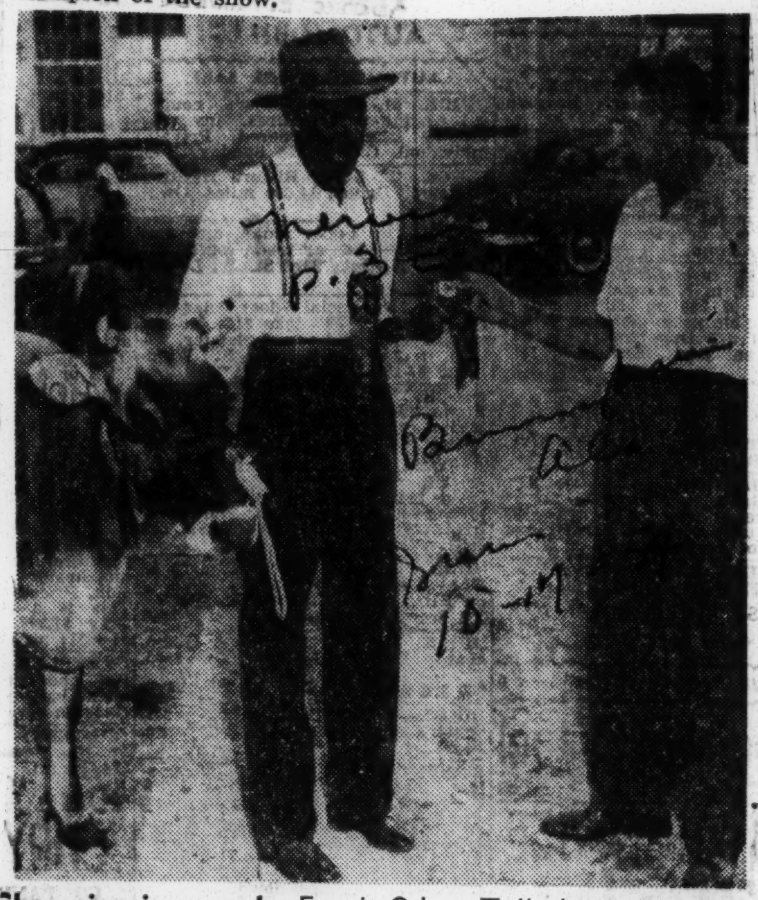
Class 2, lot 3—Wilmer Johnson Graham Rt. 1, Randolph County, 4-H, and William D. Frazier Jr., Talladega, 4-H.

Class 2, lot 4—Carol Frazier, Talladega, 4-H, and Darden Thomas, Opelika Rt. 1, Lee County, 4-H. Carol's 2-year-old cow was named junior champion and went on to win reserve honors of the show.

Tops in the senior division were as follows:

Class 3, lot 1 — Bobby Jacobs, Eastaboga Rt. 1, Talladega County, 4-H, and Essex Johnson Sr., Wetumpka Rt. 1, Elmore, adult.

Class 3, lot 2—Frank Oden, Talladega, adult farmer and Odessa Norris, Waverly Rt. 3, Tallapoosa County, 4-H. Oden's 6-year-old Jersey went on winning grand champion of the show.



Champion is named—Frank Oden, Talladega dairyman, holds his entry named Grand Champion and senior division champion at the Piedmont District Dairy Show for Negroes, held this week in Dadeville. Presenting the award to Oden is W. B. Hill, state leader of Negro extension work. (Photos by Robert Graves.)

Reserve champ of show—Carol Frazier, Talladega 4-H Clubber, shows her entry which was named reserve champion and junior division champion at the Piedmont District Dairy Show for Negroes this week in Dadeville.

Soil Conservation Services Not Changed, Farmers Told

Special to The Post-Herald

PRATTVILLE, June 24 — There is no difference in the services offered soil conservation districts under the SCS reorganization, D. A. Williams, director of Soil Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, said here today.

The basic idea is still to have as many people as possible working directly with farmers and farm planning for soil conservation practices, Williams told some 200 farmers and soil conservation district supervisors.

The occasion was the annual tour and meeting of the Alabama Association of Soil Conservation District Supervisors.

The goal of the SCS, Williams said, is to have a basic soil conservation plan on every farm in the nation.

Last year, he said, 57,000 Alabama farmers co-operated with the soil conservation districts. He said he felt sure that the districts want to reach all farmers as quickly as possible to improve old plans and institute new ones.

He stressed the need for community action by farmers in carrying out their soil and water conservation practices. He said he believes the watershed bill, known as the Hope-Aiken Bill, will help accomplish that.

Williams also stressed the importance of teamwork among all agricultural agencies.

Williams was introduced by A. D. Holmes, president of the Alabama association.

The program, held at Prattville Park along with a barbecue dinner, followed a tour in which the farmers and soil conservation leaders saw soil saving practices at work in the fields.

First stop was at the farm of Dave Yarbrough, where they viewed a 150-acre field of cotton, which is following oats and crimson clover. Here Yarbrough used parallel terraces, using a complete system of meadow outlets and field borders. The parallel terraces do away with short rows and work better on a mechanized farm operation.

Second stop was on the farm of Jack, Edward and Leonard Wadsworth where they saw 75 acres of cotton following crimson clover and native grasses. The field was turned this year. It will be planted in cotton for two years and then go back to grasses and clover.

Top Soil From Garbage

In view of recent discussion in Birmingham of methods of garbage disposal, a recent item in *The New York Times* regarding an Australian method of disposal is of interest. It is a method of letting bacteria digest city garbage and convert it into virgin topsoil or compost, and though the principle is not new, equipment demonstrated recently at Wagner College in New York does away with hand labor.

Garbage is dumped into the topmost of a series of tanks where it is ground, tin cans, bottles and all. Then it is inoculated with bacteria, mixed and aerated by turning over. It flows by gravity from higher to lower tanks, bacteria multiplying and digesting it at increasing temperatures. Temperature in the lowest tanks exceeds 160 degrees to kill disease-causing bacteria. The loamy end-product, "which smells like good earth after a rain," can be removed through a trap door in the lowest tank.

The Times article says the cost of producing compost or top soil in this way is estimated to be about $3 a ton. Equipment for the digestion of 50 tons of garbage a day would cost little more than $100,000, while an incinerator to burn 100 tons a day would cost about $48,000.

The article remarks that garbage is usually burned, dumped on unused land, or into the sea, which "is a clear waste of materials that come from the soil and ought to be returned to the soil." Chemists have been saying so for a century, but very few communities have heeded their advice.

JUDGING TEAMS—FORT VALLEY, May 6—These are the student judging teams that participated in the collegiate livestock and poultry judging contest sponsored by the Fort Valley State College division of agriculture. The group was organized as the Southern Regional Livestock Judging Society. The Tuskegee team, front (l-r) was composed of Willie L. Stain, Arthur Britton, Thomas W. Staples, Amos Farrar and Zack Hamlett. Second row: Prairie View team, Houser Carden, Fryer Lawrence and Jiles Daniels; Alabama A&M team, John Gorden, Gwinn Ezell, Willie Royster and Zebedee Rutledge. Back row: Southern University team, Larry Goins, Leon Joseph, Victor Drucette, Elam Turner and Thomas Ransbury.

Your New Social Security—

FARMERS GET CHANCE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

Families To Have Protection After Jan. 1, 1955

PROCEDURE IS EXPLAINED

(Ninth of a Series)

By JOE W. EANES

Manager, Memphis Social Security Office

In my last article I promised to discuss each of the many groups of workers who will begin earning Social Security protection for themselves and their families for the first time on Jan. 1, 1955. I saw that would be necessary after reading the new law. The 1954 amendment makes special provisions for each group in order to give the most old-age and survivors benefits to each individual. There is nothing difficult about these provisions. But since they vary with each group, I feel it would be wise to set down the main points of each. Today I'd like to tell you about the largest newly-covered group, the self-employed farm operators.

Problem Solved

More than three and a half million farm operators will be covered by social security after 1954 in much the same way as millions of self-employed urban businessmen are now. In the farmer's case, however, there is a special provision I would like to explain.

Some self-employed farm operators have low incomes, and they don't pay any income taxes on their earnings. Because they pay no income taxes, they have no need to keep records of their finances over the year. And since the self-employed report their earnings for Social Security purposes right along with their income tax reports, this became a big problem in extending coverage to include the self-employed farm operators. In fact it is one of the reasons why Social Security protection was not given to them sooner.

I am happy to say that the new amendment solved this problem. For now there is a special way for low income farm operators to report their yearly earnings for Social Security purposes in which record-keeping isn't necessary. Here is the way it works:

A self-employed farm operator with a gross income of $1,800 or less in a year who reports his income tax on a cash receipts and disbursements basis may choose one of these two methods of reporting his income for Social Security purposes:

He may report either his actual net earnings for the year or he may report 50 per cent of his gross income for that calendar year. This simplified income reporting for Social Security purposes will not apply to the farm operator whose gross income is more than $1,800 in a year. If his earnings exceed $1,800 a year, and if he reports his income on a cash receipts and disbursements basis, the farm operator must figure his actual net income.

Due On 1955 Earnings

But under the new law, he has the option of reporting that net income as $900 if it is less than $900. Neither rentals from real estate nor rentals received in the form of share crops may be counted as earnings for Social Security purposes. The optional methods of income reporting for farm operators are to be used only for reporting earnings for Social Security purposes.

Except for the simplified reporting procedure, the farm operator will earn his Social Security credits in the same manner as all self-employed men and women. Earnings, if over $400 and up to $4,200 in a calendar year, are to be reported for Social Security, and a three per cent self-employed Social Security tax contribution will be paid on these earnings.

The report and the taxes are due on the 1955 earnings, and they are to accompany the income-tax return which will be paid by April 15, 1956. The self-employed farm operator's Social Security number and net income for Social Security are placed on Schedule C-a of his Income-tax Form 1040.

The Social Security number is important to the farm operator and to all employed and self-employed men and women whose work is covered by the old-age and survivors insurance program. It is the identification of a person's Social Security account, and it is the key to future benefits for old age or for the family in case the breadwinner should die. The farm operator will also keep a record of the Social Security number and the earnings of each of his farm employes.

Beginning Jan. 1, 1955, he will be obligated to make an employer Social Security tax contribution and keep a record of the wages of his employes to whom he pays $100 or more cash wages in the course of a calendar year. I'll tell more about Social Security for the farm employe in my next article.

FARMERS TO DISCUSS SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

Shelby Bureau Will Meet At Bartlett Tuesday

The new Social Security law will be up for discussion at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Bartlett High School when members of the Shelby County Farm Bureau will meet.

Frank Giardina, Social Security Bureau field representative in Memphis, will be present to discuss the law's affect on farmers and will answer any questions. Other matters up for discussion will be acreage diversion allotments, the gas tax refund law, the Farm Bureau stand on the Tennessee Valley Authority and segregation in the schools.

"This will be a very important meeting," according to Howard Bragg, Shelby County Farm Bureau president. "The thinking of our farmers in Shelby County will be reflected in resolutions sent to the state."

Recommendations adopted at the Shelby County meeting will be sent to the bureau's state resolutions committee and considered with recommendations of the state's other counties, Mr Bragg said. Farmers who are not members of the bureau are urged to attend.

Farmers Alerted On Rights Under Social Security

Many of the farm operators who reside in this area are included in the over 5 1 2 million farm operators that will be covered by social security after 1954," emphasized Mr. H. Knox Smartt, Manager of the Nashville Office of the Social Security Administration.

Coverage for farmers under the Social Security Act is compulsory. All farm owners or operators are required to report their income if they earn $400 or more in any taxable year. A 3 percent social security tax contribution will be paid on these earnings up to $4200 a year. The first report and tax due on 1955 earnings will be paid along with the regular income tax returns, which will be filed by April 15, 1956.

A self employed farm operator with a gross income of $1800 or less who reports his income on a cash receipts and disbursements basis may choose one of the following two methods of reporting his income for social security purposes.

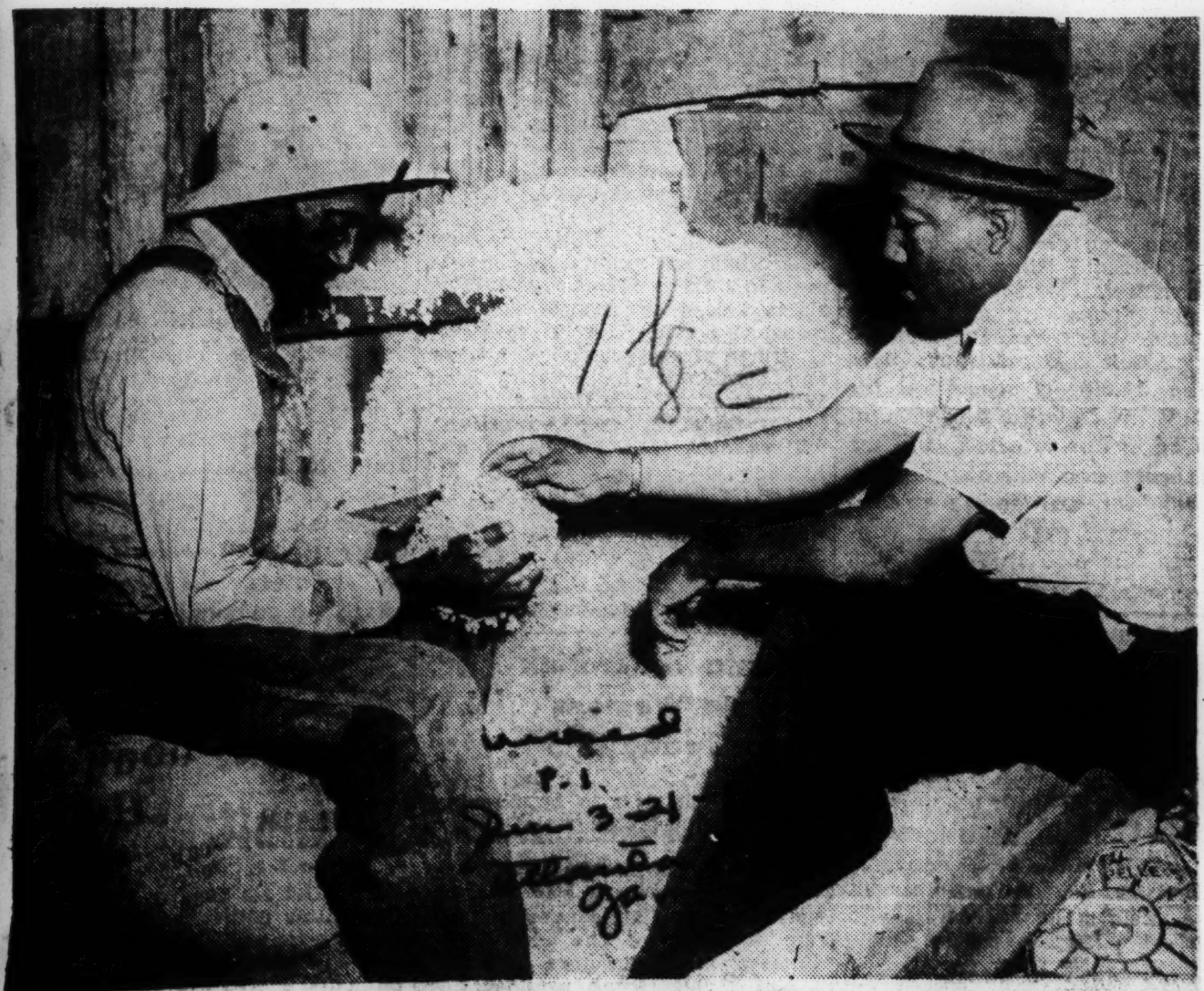
1. He may report his actual net earnings; or

2. He may report 50 percent of his gross income for the taxable year.

By use of the reporting method No. 2. the farm owner or operator who has gross earnings of at least $800 but not more than $1800 may report one half of his gross earnings for social security purposes, regardless of his actual net earnings. Rentals from real estate or rentals in the form of crop shares may not be counted as farm earnings for Social Security purposes.

Social Security benefits that may be payable to farmers or their families are based upon the earnings of the farm owner or operator. Benefits from $30 to $108.50 monthly may be paid to the retired farmer. From $45 to $162.80 monthly may be paid to the retired farmer and his wife. Survivors benefits from $45 to $200 monthly may be payable to the retired farmer's widow and minor children.

For additional information about farm coverage write your Social Security Office, located at the U. S. Courthouse, Nashville, Tennessee and ask for Booklet No. 6.



SHARES HIGH-YIELDING COTTONSEED WITH NEIGHBORS — Ott Todd, left, of Woodruff, S. C., shows County Agent R. C. Smith some of his home-grown, high-yielding cottonseed. He shares seed with his neighbors at a nominal price. This has helped to increase the cotton yield in his whole community. Two years ago, Mr. Todd won the Spartanburg County five-acre cotton contest with a yield of 640 pounds of lint cotton per acre. His average yield is 354 pounds; average for the county is 304 pounds. Mr. Todd owns a 96-acre farm on which he raises hogs, chickens, and sweetpotatoes in addition to his cotton. — (USDA Photo)

Farmers Hold Ham And Egg Show

Richland county Negro farmers, farm women, and 4-H club members held their 4th annual ham and egg show in the Saxon homes assembly room on April 10, at which time they brought greetings and inspiring talks by Richland county senator Joe E. Berry, and Sydney E. Duncan, Columbia attorney and a member of the house from this county.

W. J. Huntley and C. H. Smith representatives of the Greenwood packing company, showed a film, "This is Life," and discussed meats from the pasture to the table. Their company presented as door prizes two hams, three roasts of beef, and several pounds of bacon and weiners.

First, second, third and fourth place winners for hams were, respectively, A. A. Bookman, Irmo; E. C. Setzer, Harbison Junior College; Mrs. Irene Adams, of the Dutch Fork community and Tommie Nixon of Eastover.

Bacon winners in the same order were O. A. Bookan, Mrs. Irene Adams, and Mrs. Hattie Davis, Irmo.

Egg winners in order were Mrs Ollie Washington, Pine Grove; Mrs Lillie Seals, Crane Creek; Miss Peggy Ann Bowman, Irmo; and Mrs. Ethel Kennedy, Lykesland.

Cash prizes were donated by Nelson Brothers Electrical Company, 2403 Reed Street, and Evans Brother Grocery, 2330 Laurel St.

$20,000 Farm Supply Cooperative Launched By S. C. Negro Farmers

A $20,000 farm supply cooperative has been launched in Sumter, S. C., by the colored farmers of Sumter County, reports E. N. Williams, State supervisor of Negro agricultural extension work in South Carolina.

The co-op opened its doors recently in a new 45 by 65 foot concrete block building chock full of farm tools and supplies, home appliances, groceries, and member-grown feeds, fruits and vegetables, says Mr. Williams.

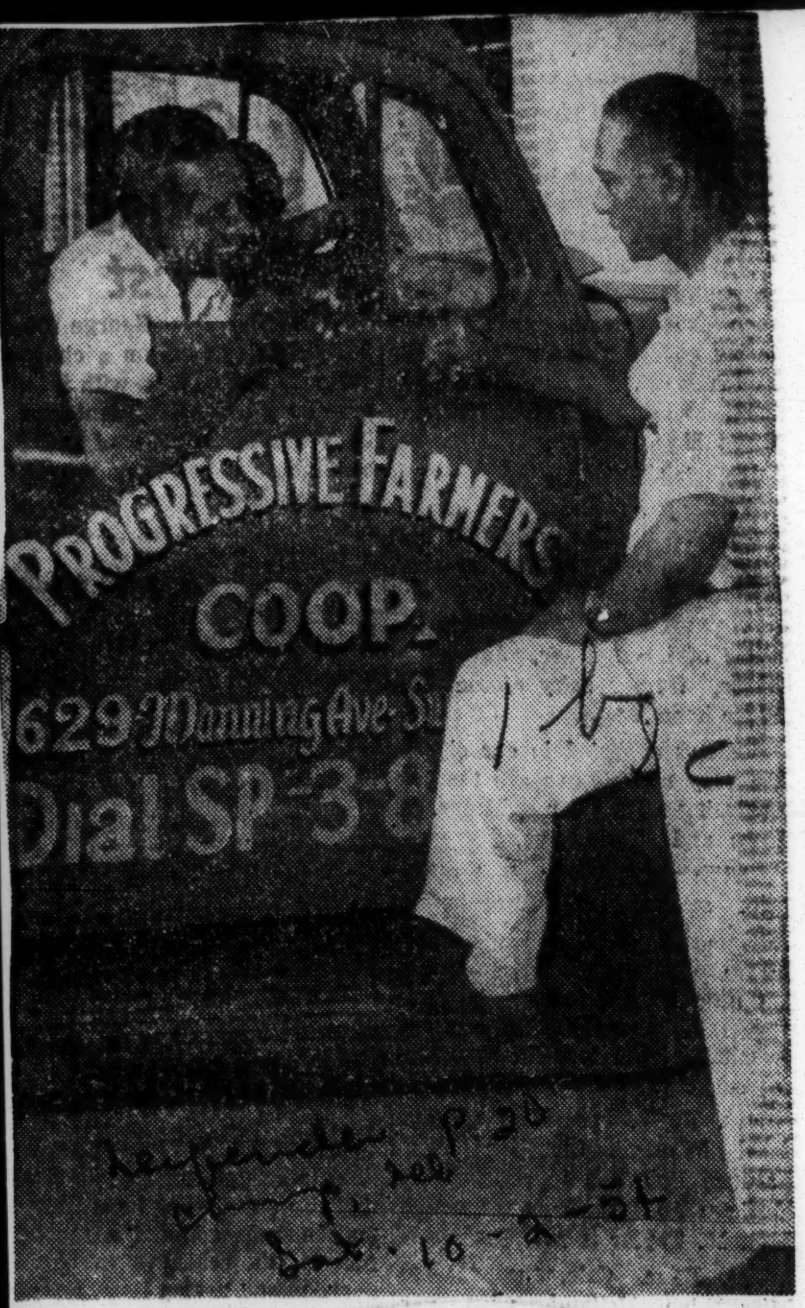
Manager H. C. Quattlebaum, a cotton and tobacco farmer, estimates that the association will do close to $50,000 worth of business its first year. He expects most of this volume to come in the fall when farmers are buying implements and home appliances and in the spring when they are getting in their fertilizer.

The co-op got started with only 18 members seven years ago when County Agent Arthur Sanders helped them organize it as a sponsoring agency for the county fair. The group was so successful with the fair that its members stuck together and started buying their fertilizer cooperatively. Name of the organization is Progressive Farmers Co-op.

Today, there are an even 100 members who own from one to one hundred shares of stock valued at $5 each. Total stock purchases is estimated at $15,000. However, when they made plans to build the store, they obtained a loan from their Columbia Bank for Cooperatives so as not to dig too deeply into their reserve.

Hubert Sanders, president of the co-op, says it provides an excellent outlet for the farmer-members' surplus hay, grain, fruits and vegetables.

"We are observing this pioneer effort closely," says Mr. Williams. "It seems to offer an approach which may have wide application in our area."



THE PROGRESSIVE FARMERS Cooperative, opened recently in Sumpter, S. C., makes deliveries in its own truck. The $20,000 venture, housed in a new 45 by 65 foot concrete building, handles everything from freezers to automobile tires and manager H. C. Quattlebaum estimates association will do close to $50,000 worth of business its first year. In photo Quattlebaum (in truck) chats with Wayman Johnson, assistant state supervisor of agriculture extension work in South Carolina.

1b 1954

LIVE-AT-HOME HAILS ITS WINNERS FRIDAY

Commercial Appeal

Annual Negro Farm Rally To Be Held At Booker T. Washington School

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

To reap the rewards they have earned by a year of intensive efforts on their farms, about 550 Mid-South Negro farmers, with their families and agricultural and educational leaders, will come to Memphis Friday as guests of The Commercial Appeal.

The event, starting at 10 a.m., will be the 17th annual Live-At-Home Rally in the Blair T. Hunt Gymnasium of Booker T. Washington High School, Lauderdale and Mississippi.

The rally will be held with the co-operation of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, the Colored Tri-State Fair and the Agricultural Extension Services, and the Farmers Home Administration of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

Highlight of the program will be the presentation of cash prizes to state and sweepstakes winners in the four-point farm competition that enrolled almost 60,000 contestants this year. Prizes total $1,710, and will be awarded to those who have done the best jobs of living at home, soil conservation, crop diversification and home improvement and management.

Special Gifts Planned

These prizes will go to first, second, third and fourth place state winners in the Landowner and Tenant Divisions and to sweepstakes winners in the Landowner, Tenant, Home Improvement and Farm Operator Divisions.

The Commercial Appeal will award special gifts to the sweepstakes winners. The grand sweepstakes award is $250 to the best Live-At-Home family of the four states, with a $100 tenant sweepstakes going to the best tenant family in the area.

A feature of the day's festivities will be an old fashioned Southern barbecue dinner with all the trimmings, served in the school cafeteria.

Principal speaker will be Sherman Briscoe, information specialist for the United States Department of Agriculture. He will be introduced by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High.

Others on the program include Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent; John Gammon Jr. of Marion, Ark., former grand sweepstakes champion in the Live-At-Home Competition and president of the Farm Bureau; W. H. Williamson, Tennessee state agent in Negro extension work; Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal.

Bessie L. Walton, Tennessee assistant state agent in Negro Home Demonstration Club work; T. R. Betton, Arkansas Negro district extension agent; W. E. Ammons, Mississippi state leader in Negro extension work; Ella Stackhouse, Missouri Negro Home Demonstration agent; Prof. R. J. Roddy, manager of the Colored Tri-State Fair, and Hobson Vandiver, manager of the Mid-South Cotton Growers' Association.

1b 1954

TEXAS

Youth's 81 Bushels Per Acre Cops First

P. 20 Dist 12-11-54 Informer

CROCKETT— Elliott Reagons, a second year student of agriculture at Bunche, was declared first place winner of the Corn-growing Contest sponsored by the local NFA chapter. Reagons had a yield of 81 bushels per acre. Joe Murphy and Albert Chizer were second and third place winners with yields of 45 and 42 bushels per acre respectively.

SANDY LOAN SOIL

Reagons' corn was grown on sandy loan soil. He had his soil tested and used fertilizer according to its needs. He used 1,013 pounds of 5-10-5 fertilizer at planting time and applied 253 lbs. of ammonium nitrate per acre at the last cultivation of the corn.

His fertilizer cost was $47.86 per acre. Reagons did not reach his goal of 100 bushels per acre due to the severe drouth suffered this summer. However, he and his advisor, I. T. Williams, were well pleased with the results obtained.

The purpose of the contest was to increase the interest of NFA members in farming and to prove that modern methods of corn-growing are superior to the old method. 81 bushels per acre is quite an improvement over the average 19-20 bushels per acre for the state.

Charles Fields, NFA reporter.

Editorially Speaking

People Will Always Have To Eat

As we make progress toward an integrated society in the United States, one of the areas in which we as Negroes shall have wider opportunity in which to employ our talents will be that of the American system of private enterprise. If we can take advantage of this opportunity to learn a lot about this system and to engage more extensively and intensively in its operations, we shall thereby be able to use it as a means of more rapid acceptance into the main stream of American life. We should never underestimate the power and the prestige which attach to the managers and promoters of the American system of private enterprise.

There was a story in the news not so long ago about a Negro farmer who, after "nearly 20 years of day-laboring in rice fields," beame a very successful rice farmer on his own. The story said that through growing rice as a free enterpriser, Shirley Banks of Garwood, Texas had acquired "more than $40,000 worth of farm equipment, and that "he raises 400 acres of rice, producing nearly 9,000 barrels annually." As a result of his succes as a free-enterprise farmer instead of as a day-laborer in the rice fields, Mr. Banks is sought out to have his picture taken and his story told in the press, and he has achieved new status as an American citizen.

We have had a long and intimate experience with agriculture, and as we make plans to take our places as full participants in the American system of private enterprise, we should not overlook the fact that people will always have to eat. Modern specialized farming offers one of the splendid opportunities for taking successful part in that system.

Brothers Find Success In Sweet Potatoes

QUITMAN, Texas. — (ANP) — The Waddleton brothers, Oran, Dock, Bertram and Marvin, have been producing sweet potatoes as a cash crop for the past six years and have never experienced too much difficulty in receiving top prices for their potatoes.

They have continually improved the quality of their product by seed treatment and hill selection of seed potatoes for color and size. Because they maintain this superior quality, buyers are very anxious to purchase their potatoes.

The brothers have been very liberal with their potato growing "Know How" and with their improved seed. Several Wood county Negro farmers have purchased either certified seed or slips from them. These growers likewise go to market with a quality product.

Since it has been impossible for these potato growing brothers to reach all of the potato producers of Wood county, Negro Farm Agent W. H. Alexander has assisted six farmers in securing certified seed potatoes and conducted a demonstration on seed treatment and bedding.

Raising Turkeys Proves Healthy Business For Texas Farm Couple

WEIMAR, Texas—Unlike some turkey farmers who may be worried about the level of feed prices they are paying and the lower prices they are receiving this year for their birds, Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie Wilson of Weimar, Texas, think they will come out all right.

"That's because they grow most of their turkey feed and sell their birds dressed," says Texas State Extension Leader W. C. David in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Department estimates this year's turkey crop at 61 million birds — five million above 1953. And the average mid-August price of 27.7 cents per pound was five cents below last year.

This year the Wilsons have 400 home-fed turkeys. The couple will be busy from now until Thanksgiving, dressing the birds and placing them in a local freezer locker.

They began raising turkeys 10 years ago, starting out with four turkey hens and a tom. Soon they began buying poults from a hatchery, and gradually increased the size of their flock until it numbered more than 500 head on year. Their average is about 400 birds for the Thanksgiving and Christmas market.

"It was raising turkeys," says Mr. David, "that gave the Wilsons the confidence to quit tenant farming and start buying a place of their own." Now they own 45 acres and rent 75 acres more, mainly for pasture for their turkeys, hogs, and expanding herd of beef cattle.

For a year or two after they started raising turkeys in large numbers, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson bought most of their turkey feed because their corn yield was so low — hardly enough for their workstock and few head of hogs. Then their county agent, S. E. Chase, showed them how to increase their yields by applying sound soil and water conservation practices. He even helped them build terraces and got them started with winter cover crops.

"Our land isn't washing and blowing away anymore," says Mr. Wilson. "And our corn yield is up from 10 to 15 bushels per acre to nearly 60, and our cotton yield has about doubled."

With extra corn on hand, they make their own feed mix for their turkeis which also graze over a 15-acre pasture of clovers. "This cuts their feed bill right down," reports Mr. David.

The Wilsons have a son who was an outstanding 4-H'er. He entered college three years ago and plans to become either a county agent or a vocational agriculture teacher. They hope he will find time to do some farming on the side and take over their place one day.

MR. AND MRS. GILLESPIE WILSON, left, of Weimar, Texas, think they will come out all right with their 400 head of turkeys for the Thanksgiving market, despite feed costs and lower returns for the birds. They feel assured because they grow most of their turkey feed and sell their birds dressed at a somewhat better price. County Agent, S. E. Chase, who has helped the couple to increase their corn yield and improve their pastures, looks over the birds to see how well they are gaining weight.

NEGRO TURKEY FARMER EASES PRICE SQUEEZE BY GROWING FEED AND SELLING BIRDS DRESSED

WASHINGTON, D. C. Nov. 15 (Special)— Unlike some turkey farmers who may be worried about the level of feed prices they are paying and the lower prices they are receiving this year for their birds, Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie Wilson of Weimar, Texas, think they will come out all right.

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Cotton Queen To Tour Haiti

MEMPHIS — The college girl who possesses the greater of the qualities of beauty, personality and talent, will become winner of the "Spirit of Cotton-Makers Jubilee," and a traveling emissary of cotton fashions and good-will.

The Memphis Cotton Makers' Jubilee, Inc., announced this week that the Spirit of Cotton contest will be held Thursday, March 4, at which time the Jubilee Board of Judges will select the college girl who has not only the most perfect body and beauty, but talent and personality as well. Winner of the nationally sponsored contest will receive:

An all-expense paid chaperoned tour to leading cities in the U. S. and to the Republic of Haiti, plus a 30-piece all-cotton wardrobe, a half dozen blouses and an equal number of lingerie pieces. She wil also be awarded a full length overcoat, a lined jacket and a rain ensemble.

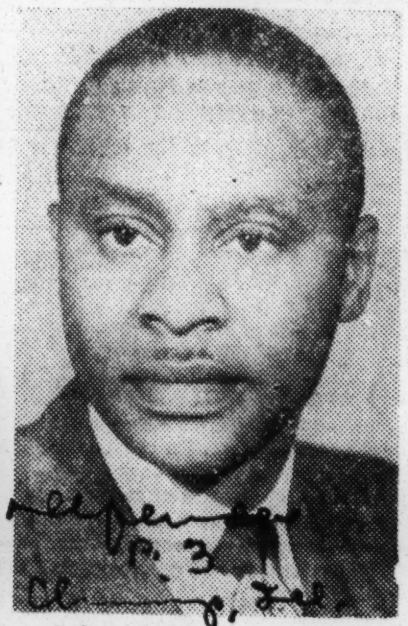
THE JUDGES

Judges for the contest will be Mrs. Mozelle Robinson, dean of women at Knoxville college, Knoxville, Tenn.; Dr. William Crump, director of public relations, Tennessee A & I university, and Mrs. R. S. Lewis, Memphis civic and social leader.

The "Spirit of Cotton-Makers Jubilee" contest and tour are programs designed to present a positive approach to informing America of the Negroes active participation in the production, cultivation and development of cotton.

The wearer of the "Spirit of Cotton" title emphasizes cotton fashions.

Dr. R. Q. Venson, Beale avenue physician, is founder of the contest and composer and publisher W. C. Handy is national honorary president.



FINAL DECISION ON the winner of the "Spirit of Cotton-Makers Jubilee" of 1954 will rest with this trio of Tennessee judges who represent various professions and industries. Shown above, left to right, are Mrs. Mozelle Robinson, dean of women at Knoxville college, Knoxville, Tenn.; Dr. William L. Crump, director of public relations, Tennessee A and I university, and Mrs. R. S. Lewis, Memphis civic and social leader. The Jubilee is scheduled to take place March 4, at Ellis Auditorium.

'Spirit Of Cotton' On Tour

COUNTRY'S SPOTLIGHT is now on personable Miss Juana Hendricks, a lovely young coed of Lane college, Jackson, Tenn., who brought honor to her school recently when she won the title of "Miss Spirit Of Cotton Maker Jubilee." Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford John Hendricks of Kansas City, Mo., Miss Tendricks is now on a tour of 25 key cities of the United States, Haiti, Cuba and Canada. During her trip she will tell the story of cotton and the South a nd will display her 30 piece al-cotton wardrobe. These photos represent a typical busy day for "The Spirit" at Lane college. At left Miss Hendricks rushes from lunch to a class modeling. In photo she wears one of her cotton frocks. Juana relaxes with her books and rag doll in top center photo. At right, enroute to class, she meets a pal, Miss Willie Ann Taylor. Digging for "info" in the library is vitally important in the process of getting an education. Standing (lower center photo) is Charles Curry, while Miss Hendricks lends an ear to what a friend is saying. Seated are John Morton, L. Moore, George Kendricks and N. Taylor.

Juana Hendricks On Long, Arduous Junket

MEMPHIS — One of the South's fairest young maidens, pretty Mae Juana Hendricks, the 20-year-old "Miss Spirit of Cotton," left here last week on a whirlwind tour that will take her to eight states, Haiti and Cuba.

A junior at Lane College, Jackson, Tenn., the attractive Tennessee cotton queen is representing the Cotton Makers Jubilee. She was crowned last month after winning over keen competition from other universities and colleges.

Miss Hendricks, a native of Kansas City, Mo., left here April 6 for Daytona Beach Fla. and Miami. Her next stop was Port Au Prince, Haiti, where she will remain until April 18.

During her stay (10 days) in Haiti, Miss Hendricks attend a folklore show and lunched at Le Refuge. She also visited with Nelaton Laforile, the mayor of Port Au Prince.

Among her other visits were the national museum and art center, the Angelican Cathedral and the national palace.

Her next stop, April 19, will be Havana, Cuba and two-days later she is due to arrive in New Orleans. On April 22, Houston, Texas will roll out the royal carpet for the cotton queen.

After a short stop later in Little Rock, Ark., Miss Hendricks will visit Chicago, April 25, then Baltimore, New York City, Buffalo, Washington and Knoxville.

During her whirlwind tour of Washington, she will visit the Department of Agriculture, see a fashion review and tour the Senate.

On May 7 she will attend a Howard University fashion show and luncheon and will be honored at the traditional Howard Home Economics "Cotton Ball."

READY FOR WINTER — Mr. and Mrs. Preston "Doc" Higganbotham of Amherst, Va., are showing their home demonstration agent, Miss Rachel Carter, center, part of their home-grown food supply for the winter. Mrs. Higganbotham puts up about 500 jars and cans of fruits and vegetables every year. She sells some of them and sends some to their son and daughter and their families in town. Two or three of Mr. Higganbotham's home-cured hams are included in each of the packages. The couple owns a 155-acre farm on which they raise hogs, cattle, tobacco, wheat, corn and other feed crops. Mr. Higganbotham carries on experiments all the time to try to find out the best feeds for his livestock and the best fertilizer combinations for his crops. — (USDA Photo)

Navy veteran who had a dream and kept good records, has farm worth $15,000

COURTLAND, Va.—A 33-year-old Navy veteran who had a burning desire to own a farm and realized the value of keeping good records now has an estate worth $15,000.

Theodore McClenny, who began farming on a shoestring, now has a modern dwelling, several outbuildings, chickens, hogs, cows, a garden and 87 acres of land, all because he knew how to apply for advantageous loans.

The World War II veteran began to turn his dream into reality in 1948 when he bought a 214-acre farm for $7,500 with the aid of a $4,000 loan from a local bank. At the time the house was badly in need of repairs.

Another $2,000 was earmarked for repairs and improvements to the dwelling. An outlay of $500 gave the house a new look, patched the sagging porch, fixed windows and other necessary repairs.

Gets Modern Bathroom

The remaining $1,500 was spent for a modern bathroom. He had already installed a pump and running water system out of his own funds. Another $200 went for a smokehouse for his cured meat.

In the pantry the family has more than 500 jars of canned fruits and vegetables. They plan to be completely out of debt in about 10 years. Under the FHA program, McClenny is permitted to pay up before the 40-year contract is up.

McClenny was brought up on a farm owned by his father. He attended high school for three years before going into the Navy and is the type of person who doesn't turn a deaf ear to progressive farm ideas.

Kept Good Records

According to the FHA supervisor, one of the things which has contributed much to the family's success is the way they keep good records of their operations.

The supervisor and the family have already drawn up a complete operating farm program for 1954, showing how many acres will be in various crops, what further improvements are needed and the estimated income they should receive.

there was one outbuilding on the place and only 87 acres under cultivation.

Learns About FHA

Soon thereafter, Mr. McClenny learned about the Farmers Home Administration, a federal assistance to farmers unable to get the credit they need from regular commercial sources.

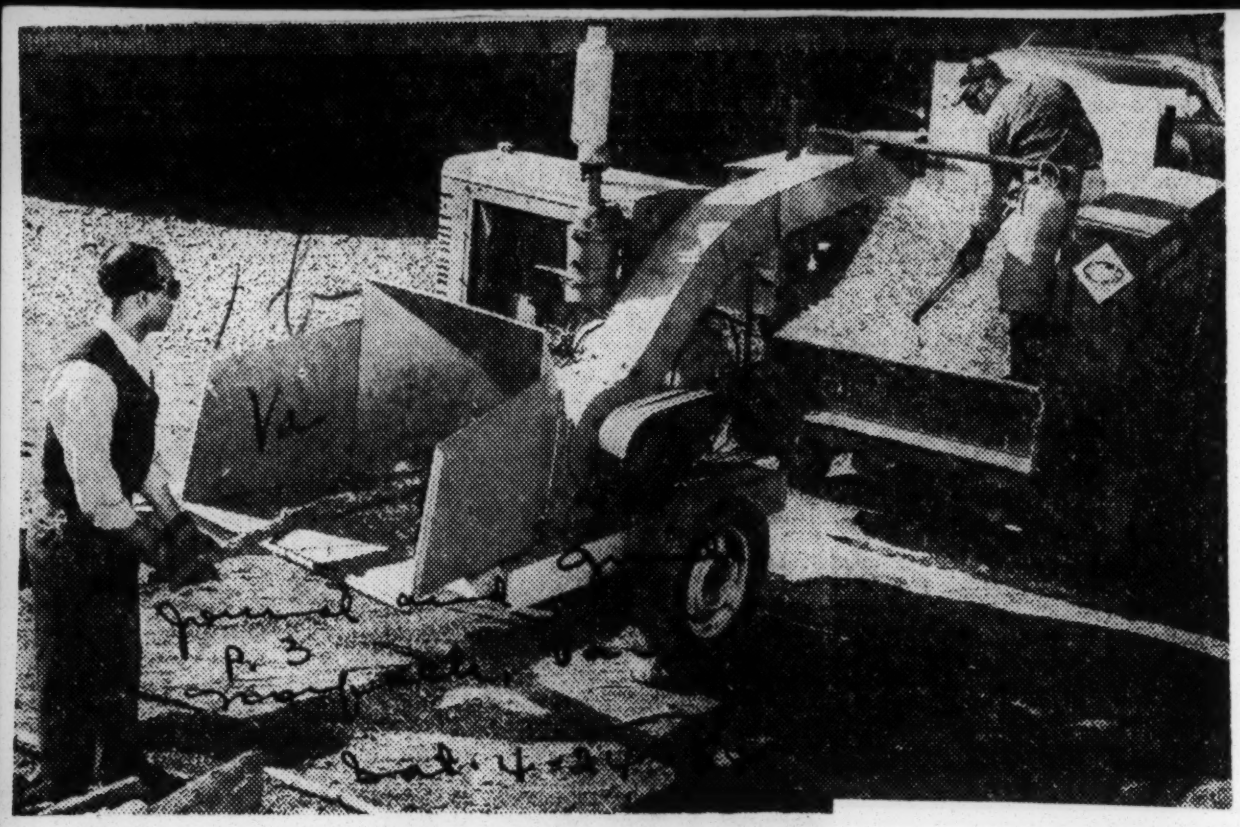
He inquired at the local office in Courtland and found out that a farmer with few assets but possessing a lot of character and farming ability could obtain the kind of loan he needed to improve his farm and stretch his payments over a 40-year repayment period if necessary.

The FHA officials investigated and found that McClenny was a good risk. He had been taking GI agricultural courses, kept good records and had applied himself well. He had already built a good barn and a 10-stall hog house from his own funds.

Gets $10,800 Loan

He was approved for a farm development loan of $10,800 from the FHA plus a short-term operating loan of $1,750 to finance his operations during 1953. This latter loan was repaid from the current crop of peanuts.

The first thing Mr. McClenny did was to pay off the $4,000 deed of trust on the mortgage held by the bank in order to give the agency a first lien. The next thing was to get a 30-acre plot of scrub woodland cleared and turned into productive cropland which would give him 117 acres for cultivation.



Overton Jones feeds wood chipper.

Dinwiddie Man Conducts Livestock Bedding Tests

ITHACA, N. Y. — Research now being conducted by agricultural engineers at Cornell University may result in the substitution of wood chips for the straw and other materials long used for livestock bedding.

Overton Johnson, a native of Dinwiddie, Va., and graduate of Virginia State College, and former vocational-agriculture teacher at Manassas, Va., has been conducting experiments with the chipping of woodlot waste for such use at Cornell where he is working on his doctorate.

USING A portable wood chipper which will devour anything from brush to six-inch legs, Mr. Johnson estimates that the chips may be producted for livestock bedding at about one-fourth of the cost of the straw.

Professor E. W. Foss, who is supervising the chipping project says that the farm woodlot offers the lowest cost organic matter for bedding, mulch, and soil humus that the farmer can obtain. A full year's bedding can be supplied in one or two days of free time, he added.

OTHER ASPECTS of the research involve study of relative costs of producing chips from woodlot thinnings, logging waste, hardwood sprout growth and other sources.

Professor G. W. Trimberger of the Animal Husbandry Department is comparing the merits of wood chips with straw and other materials for bedding, George R. Free, supervisor of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's soil management research at Cornell is studying the effects of wood chips on crop yields.

* * *

CHIPS HAVE been used as top dressing and incorporated with the soil, and are being compared with other treatments.

Some 50 portable chippers are now in use in the state and it was pointed out that there is a possibility that chippers may soon be found in many communities, since they will enable the farmer to remove a waste material from his woodlot and at the same time provide a product for his own use at rock bottom prices.

The cost of providing chips for such use ranges from $3 to $6 per ton, depending upon the types of wood used, distance of skidding the legs, and the skill of the operator, it was estimated.

1b 1954

USDA Announces Year Book On Agriculture, Marketing

1954 YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The U S. Department of Agriculture announced recently the publication of its 1954 Yearbook of Agriculture, a 520 - page volume packed with facts about the complex system that brings American farm products to their users.

Entitled MARKETING, the book comprises 18 sections and 88 chapters and was written by 214 marketing specialists, most of whom are employees of the Department and of agricultural colleges.

A Congressional document, the Yearbook is distributed mainly by Members of the Congress. It also is sold by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at $1.75 a copy. The Department of Agriculture has no copies for general distribution.

In a foreword, Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, wrote about the importance of the subject, as follows:

"After the war our export markets expanded greatly and then shrank. Marketing became much more costly. The need grew for bigger and more stable markets at home and abroad and for more efficient methods of storing, transporting, and distributing our farm products. Those problems concern every farmer, every processor, every distributor, every family in the United States.

"Our marketing system is intricate. It is sensitive to many economic and international developments. It includes millions of processors and dealers, each making his own plans .....

"The challenge to our American system is to maintain both freedom and order — to assure the flexibility that stimulates progress and the stability that promotes steady employment and purchasing power.